FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOI/PA
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET
FOI/PA# 1189082-2

Total Deleted Page(s) = 4
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Page 100 ~ Referral/Direct;
Page 101 ~ Referral/Direct;
Page 102 ~ Referral/Direct;

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X Deleted Page(s) X
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X For this Page X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

62-104401-787

REC-35

March 29, 1961

Mr. [redacted]

Los Angeles 4, California

b6
b7C

Dear Mr. [redacted]

Your letter of March 8, 1961, has been received, and your kind message is deeply appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 9
MAR 20 1961
COMM-FBI

Enclosures (3) Director's speech 10-18-60
17th Nat'l Convention, CP, USA & B-60 LEB Intro
Communism: Bitter Enemy of Religion
NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.

DCL:efr* (3)

51 MAR 29 1961

NOTE continued next page.

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

#220504
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/31/86

NOTE: Robert Welch, founder of the John Birch Society, an allegedly anticommunist organization, has criticized the Eisenhower Administration bitterly in the past. He once stated he felt a group having the appearance of a communist front would be effective in attracting true subversives.

[redacted]

b6
b7C

LOS ANGELES 4, CALIFORNIA

March 8, 1961

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I have called the Los Angeles Office of the F.B.I. and have written to the Attorney-General, Washington, D.C. and have not been given the satisfaction that I had hoped to receive.

I am deeply interested and concerned about the state of affairs in our Country. I am ready to assist or help in any way that I can to help awaken Americans to the infiltration of Communism. Consequently when the John Birch Society was presented to me it seemed to be the answer; however I have wanted Clearance concerning this organization and since the above Departments are unable to verify the integrity of this Society I am hoping that you have the time to give me your personal views on this matter and any suggestions that I can follow in order to awaken the people in my community to the imminent dangers that surround us.

I have always appreciated your efforts on our behalf and I would like to compliment you for your courage, conviction, and patriotism. I know the people are behind you. Keep up the outstanding work, we count on you.

REC- 35 62-104401

Sincerely yours,

[redacted]

ack me 3-17-61

287

b6
b7C

3 1961

220,804

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3-31-86 BY Dpmacmce

PERS. FILES

N

REC- 93 62-104401-788

March 17, 1961

13

Mrs. [redacted]
[redacted]
Ventura, California

b6
b7C

Dear Mrs. [redacted]

Your letter postmarked March 9, 1961, with enclosure, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest. I am returning the self-addressed, stamped envelope you forwarded.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

Enclosures (4)
Correspondent's enclosed envelope
Communist Party, USA
Director's Speech of 10-18-60
The Communists Are After Our Minds
see NOTE next page

50 MAR 24 1961

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

RWE:lcl* (3)

3-31-86

Letter to Mrs. [redacted] b6 b7C

NOTE: Bufiles contain no record identifiable with correspondent. Robert Welch, founder of the John Birch Society, an allegedly anticommunist organization, has criticized the Eisenhower Administration bitterly in the past He once stated he felt a group having the appearance of a communist front would be effective in attracting true subversives.

TRUE COPY

J. Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover,

As Director of the organization delegated with the responsibility for our national security, you are the one whose opinion would be most accurate as to the true motives behind various national organizations in this regard.

A chapter of the John Birch Society is being formed in this area. I would greatly appreciate receiving from you your opinion as to approval or disapproval of the motives and work of this organization in relation to the national security of these United States.

A self-addressed envelope is enclosed for your reply.

Sincerely,

/s/ Mrs [redacted]

b6
b7C

Mrs. [redacted]
Ventura, Calif.

Enclosure

REC-93 62-104401-788

5 MAR 21 1961

ack: 3/17/61
RWE:dl

1 true copy
3-14-61
mca

EX-113

CORRESPONDENCE

3-31-86

J. Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover,

As Director of the organization delegated with the responsibility for our national security, you are the one whose opinion would be most accurate as to the true motives behind various national organizations in this regard.

A chapter of the John Birch Society is being formed in this area. I would greatly appreciate receiving from you your opinion as to approval or disapproval of the motives and work of this organization in relation to the national security of these United States.

CORRESPONDENCE

8-31-66 Appreciate

A self-addressed envelope is enclosed for your reply.

Sincerely,

b6
b7C

Mrs [redacted]

Ventura, Calif.

2.
3.

Enclosure

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. DeLoach

DATE: 3-15-61

FROM : D. C. Morrell

SUBJECT: THE JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W. C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

The Bureau has, of course, been cognizant over a period of time of the many fanatical right-wing anticommunist organizations which are presently spreading widely throughout the country and of their utterly absurd viewpoints. For your information, I am attaching copies of letters dated March 6 and 8, 1961, from Mr. [redacted] Dallas, Texas, and [redacted] Saint Paul Methodist Church, 4317 Wolflin Avenue, Amarillo, Texas, which typify the absolute confusion and lack of confidence in American institutions and one's fellow man being caused by representatives of such organizations.

b6
b7C

Both Mr. [redacted] and Mr. [redacted] inquire concerning the John Birch Society (JBS). The former makes wild allegations re Francis Gary Powers, the convicted U.S. "spy" now in Russia, being in collusion with Russia which reports are being disseminated by one Fred Koch representing the JBS.

Mr. [redacted] mentions one General William Lee, a retired Air Force general, who recently spoke at a Parent-Teacher Association in his area (and possibly represented the JBS), at which time General Lee allegedly stated "we were not to trust anyone for he might be a communist--not our teachers, the textbooks, the minister, Sunday School teachers, not our neighbor, not even our mate." [redacted] also informs: "Tensions have built within the community and some churches until one might believe the communist were the winners of "round one" in our city. Smear-gossip has run rampant until it is not safe to speak, teach or even talk with 'friends'."

General William Lee is not identifiable in Bufiles. Fred Koch, who is speaking for the JBS, may refer to Fred C. Koch, author of "A Businessman Looks at Communism" and President of the Rock Island Oil and Refining Company, Inc., Wichita, Kansas. The Manion Forum Network disseminates material presented by Koch.

REC- 85

62-104401-789

RECOMMENDATION:

None. For information. Attached two letters have been acknowleged by forwarding to both Mr. [redacted] and Mr. [redacted] various publications on the subject of communism from the Bureau and informing them we could furnish no information concerning the John Birch Society.

b6
b7C

17 MAR 21 1961

Enclosures (2) DCL:mb (2)

66 MAR 27 1961

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 3-31-86 JPMacNiece

[redacted]

Dallas, Texas
March 6, 1961

b6
b7C

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Information Department
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:

At the present time in certain parts of Texas, an organization called the "John Burke Society" is holding meetings and explaining the growing dangers of communism.

A Mr. Fred Koch in particular, will travel to any part of the country to talk to an aggregate of twenty people. Some of the printed information distributed by this organization contains information such as; that Francis Gary Powers was not shot down in Russia, but landed his plane after being paid by the Russian Government. All of the information that I have read by this organization is very interesting, but still I am rather skeptical about their product.

Would you please give me any unclassified information about this organization so that I might be convinced that they are doing a worthy thing and not duping the public? Also, would you please send me any printed information that your great organization has pertaining to the communist party in the United States.

I hope to hear from you shortly. Thank you very much.

Respectfully yours,

[redacted]

b6
b7C

62-104401-787

ENCLOSURE

REC-64 62-104401-790

March 17, 1961

Mr. [redacted]
Box [redacted]
Amarillo, Texas

b6
b7C

Dear Mr. [redacted]

Your letter of March 8, 1961, with enclosure, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

Enclosures (3)
(listed next page)

see NOTE next page

30 MAR 28 1961

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

JMR:cfr* (3)

31/31/86 SDimaomia

Director's Speech 10-18-60
What You Can Do To Fight Communism
Communism: Bitter Enemy of Religion

NOTE: Bufiles contain no record of the correspondent and there is no information re William L. Lee to preclude sending this communication. Robert Welch, founder of the John Birch Society, an allegedly anticommunist organization, has criticized the Eisenhower Administration bitterly in the past. He once stated he felt a group having the appearance of a communist front would be effective in attracting true subversives.

Box [redacted]

Amarillo, Texas

March 8, 1961

Federal Bureau of Investigation

Department of Justice

Washington 25, D.C.

Attention: Mr. J. Edgar Hoover

b6
b7C

My Dear Mr. Hoover,

We seem to have an ultra-patriotic group in Amarillo, to put it literally, who have been raising hell by various accusations concerning communism amongst local people. They call themselves the John Birch Society. The organization purports to be 100% American but they sure have a strange way of doing business. There code seems to be, "we'll lead, you follow, and no questions asked." One of their current goals besides intimidation seems to be the overthrow of the U.S. Supreme Court by impeachment. An ex-general, William L. Lee, is the public leader; but on hearsay evidence is not the real leader. I'm inclosing an article from this evening's paper concerning the group.

You are probably aware of this organization but I'd like to call it to your attention. If there is any public information concerning this group I would appreciate it.

Very truly yours,

b6
b7C

[redacted]

ENCLOSURE

EX-112

REC-64

62-104401

MAR 21 1961

38th Year, No. 11 10 Cents 36 Pages Amarillo, Tex., Wednesday, March 8, 1961

Ministers Ask Lee To Back Charges

A group of Amarillo ministers today called on a retired Air Force general here to take any documented evidence which he has concerning Communism in the National Council of Churches to proper authorities.

The ministers said in a prepared statement that any such evidence does not belong in the hands of individuals or organized groups, but should be turned over to the FBI and proper courts "that action under the law can be taken to resolve the said charges."

Participating in preparation of the paper were nine ministers representing all denominations in Amarillo which are associated with the National Council of Churches. Eight of the ministers signed the document. One, who was in on the preparation of most of the paper, was called from the meeting and had not had an opportunity to sign the document by noon today.

In their paper, the ministers cited a statement made recently by the National Council in which it was denied that any Communist influence is present in that organization.

They called the charges made on Monday by Brig. Gen. (Ret.) William L. Lee of Amarillo as being in violent contradiction with the National Council statement and called attention to the "Constitutional right of every American citizen to be confronted by his accusers and be tried by the courts."

Ministers who signed the instrument are: Bishop George Quarterman, bishop of the Episcopal diocese; Dr. E. B. Lindreth, district superintendent of the Methodist Church; the Rev. Charley P. Harnest, Covenant Presbyterian Church; the Rev. Clayton Sugg, minister of Grace Lutheran Church; Dr. Luther Kirk, minister of San Jacinto Methodist Church; Dr. Jordan Grooms, minister of Polk Street Methodist Church; Dr. Newton Robison, minister of First Christian Church, and Dr. Skinner, minister of First Presbyterian Church.

Dr. William Everhart, minister of Westminister Presbyterian Church, was present for most of the discussions, but was called from the meeting before it was completed and had not signed by noon.

The statement follows:

"We, the undersigned ministers, are concerned by the charge that the National Council of Churches of Christ in the USA has been infiltrated by Communists and the claim that is made by Gen. Lee that he has in his hands 'documented proof' of this fact. We, as Christian citizens, would welcome any opportunity to rid the country of Communist infiltration in the church or in any area of our society.

"The public charge made by Gen. Lee is in direct contradiction to the following statement from the leaders of The National Council of Churches in the USA:

" 'From its very first moment of existence in December 1950, when the denominations constituted this agency to witness to their unity in Christ and to conduct their cooperative work, the National Council of Churches has never had a Communist Party member or sympathizer among its officers or staff, or its executives. Every one of these devoted church members is deeply loyal to his country. Every one of them resists, by conviction, and by virtue of his professional activity, the attemps of Communism to infiltrate and undermine a free society both in America and other nations of the world. The Council defies anyone to offer proof of probative value to the country.

"'Since the Council was formed, literally thousands of clergymen and laity have participated actively in the work of its numerous departments and committees, including the members of the Revised Standard Bible Committee. We know of no one of these thousands who has Communistic leanings. Certainly none has

(See MINISTERS—Page 2)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/31/86 Sparacino

62-104401-790
ENCLOSURE

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. A. H. Belmont

DATE: March 9, 1961

FROM : W. C. Sullivan

SUBJECT: JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY
INFORMATION CONCERNING

Tolson
Mohr
Parsons
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Malone
McGuire
Rosen
Trotter
Evans
W. C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy
Mr. Tavel

Enclosed is a report concerning captioned organization which appeared in the March 10, 1961, issue of Time magazine. It is a succinct picture of a lunatic-fringe type of organization that is doing more harm than good with a professional anticommunist attack on everything and everyone opposing its own dictatorial policies.

Most interesting in the enclosed article is the parallel it draws between the organization and operation of the Communist Party and the John Birch Society, both of which exist under the hard-boiled dictatorial direction of one man, both of which have cells in various cities throughout the country, and both of which operate effectively through front organizations in a militant manner that is barely a goose step away from the formation of goon squads.

Equally important is the reported observation of a Chicago conservative who backed away from the John Birch Society with the observation that it "is the kind of thing that does violence to everything we're trying to accomplish" and "siphons a lot of well-meaning people off into a lunatic fringe" while "giving anti-Communist efforts a black eye," hurting us "much more than it helps us."

The supporters of this organization and those influenced by the vicious propaganda it has been putting out are typical of the fanatics who have been attempting lately to disparage and discredit Bureau speakers who have been giving audiences a true, factual picture concerning the nature of the threat which communist activities in this country represent.

RECOMMENDATION:

For information.

ENCLOSURE

Enclosure

CDB:meh:baj
(7)

62-104401-791

REC-9

10 MAR 22 1961

1 - Mr. Parsons
1 - Mr. Mohr
1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. Belmont
1 - Mr. Sullivan
1 - Section Tickler

66 MAR 24 1961

0-19 (Rev. 2-13-61)

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele Room
Ingram
Gandy

ORGANIZATIONS

The Americanists

Among the U.S. brotherhoods dedicated to the fight against Communism, nothing is quite like the John Birch Society. Except for an elite corps of leaders, its members shun personal publicity, and their names are held by the society in strictest secrecy. Its cells, of 20 to 30 members apiece, take orders from society headquarters, promote Communist-style front organizations that do not use the John Birch name. Carefully avoiding normal channels of political action, the society accepts the hard-boiled, dictatorial direction of one man who sees democracy as a "perennial fraud" and estimates that the U.S. is 40% to 60% Communist-controlled. In other time, other places, the John Birch "Americanists"—as they call themselves—might seem a tiresome, comic-opera joke. But already the society admits to cells in 35 states, and its partisans have made their anonymous and unsettling presence felt in scores of U.S. communities.

In Wichita, Kans., student members of the society are trained to tell their cell leader of any "Communist" influence [redacted] planned to make a modest contribution to a University of Wichita fund was dissuaded because members of the society were demanding that certain professors and books be thrown out. "My business would be wrecked," said he, "if those people got on the phone and kept on yelling that I am a Communist because I give money to the school." Society members in Nashville, Tenn., started telephone campaigns to warn homeowners that some of their neighbors were suspected Reds. The project with current top priority is the impeachment of Chief Justice Earl Warren, and activities in a dozen cities range from the "spontaneous" circulation of petitions to a rash of letters to newspapers, and a HELP IMPEACH EARL WARREN banner strung across the main street of Pampa, Texas (and taken down by the police a few hours later).

The Red Plot. All society activity comes under the firm thumb of a balding, deceptively mild-mannered, retired businessman from Belmont, Mass., named Robert Welch. Son of a North Carolina farmer, Baptist Welch, 61, spent 25 years as an executive with Cambridge's famed candy-making James O. Welch Co. (run by his brother). After the war, Welch began to bone up on Communist literature; eventually he decided that such [redacted] quest, Welch left candy for full-time Communist pamphleteering in 1958. He founded the John Birch Society the next year, naming it for a U.S. Navy captain killed by Chinese Communist guerrillas after V-J day.

Welch's *Mein Kampf* is a masterpiece of invective called *The Politician*. Shown only to close friends, the book is now being withdrawn from circulation, largely because its judgments on contemporary leaders repelled more people than they attracted. Some Welchian estimates:

¶ The Eisenhower brothers: ". . . Milton Eisenhower is actually Dwight Eisenhower's superior and boss within the Communist Party . . . For [the former President], there is only one possible word to describe his purposes and his actions. That word is treason."

¶ CIA Director Allen Dulles: "The most protected and untouchable supporter of Communism, next to Eisenhower himself, in Washington."

¶ The late John Foster Dulles: "A Communist agent."

Right-Wing Names. For public consumption, Welch has kept his vitriol well enough in check to avoid libel suits. A prolific author, he has turned out reams of Red-baiting copy, including the *Blue Book* that guides the society's actions. He puts out the monthly *American Opinion*, as well as a bulletin that informs all dues-paying ($24 a year for men, $12 for women) members of the society's monthly aims. Despite the ill-fame of *The Politician*, Welch has been highly praised as a freedom fighter by a horde of familiar right-wing names, *e.g.*, Actor Adolphe Menjou, Lawyer Clarence Manion, ex-Diplomat Spruille Braden, who grace the society's council and have the right to appoint his successor.

Not all conservatives are so sanguine about Welch. Many object to the society's contempt for dissent from its views, feel that its militant words and thoughts are barely a goose step away from the formation of goon squads. "This is the kind of thing that does violence to everything we're trying to accomplish," says one Chicago conservative who backed away from Birchism after a glimpse at *The Politician*. "It siphons a lot of well-meaning, respectable people off into a lunatic fringe run by Welch, at the same time giving anti-Communist efforts a black eye. It hurts us much more than it helps us."

Sommaccia

The Washington Post and Times Herald
The Washington Daily News
The Evening Star
New York Herald Tribune
New York Journal-American
New York Mirror
New York Daily News
New York Post
The New York Times
The Worker
The New Leader
The Wall Street Journal
Date 3/10/61
Time Magazine

ENCLOSURE 62-104401-791

REC-33 62-104401-792

March 17, 1961

Mrs. Frank W. DeFriece
Secretary-Treasurer
The S. E. Massengill Company
Bristol, Tennessee

Dear Mrs. DeFriece: PAULINE M,

I have received your letter of March 13, 1961, and the interest which prompted you to communicate with me on this occasion is indeed appreciated.

While I do wish it were possible to be of assistance, the jurisdiction and responsibilities of the FBI do not extend to furnishing evaluations or comments concerning the character or integrity of any individual, publication or organization. I regret that I am unable to help you, and I hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

I can readily understand your deep concern over the grave threat posed by communism. It is my firm belief that a broad knowledge of the objectives and operations of the communist conspiracy is essential if Americans are to effectively resist its influence. My book, "Masters of Deceit," was intended to be an easy-to-read primer on communism for students and other Americans who would like to learn something about this evil menace. I have always felt that private citizens, acting through their civic, labor, religious, educational and similar organizations, constitute one of our most effective weapons against communism.

I am sending, under separate cover, several items on the subject of communism which you might like to read.

Sincerely yours,
J. Edgar Hoover

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

1 - D. C. Morrell - Room 4235
USC Material - Next page.

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

66 MAR 28 1961

3/31/86

USC Material
10-18-60 American Legion speech
Expose of Soviet Espionage
Communist Target--Youth
One Nation's Response to Communism
Christianity Today

NOTE: Bufiles contain no derogatory information and no previous correspondence with Mrs. DeFriece. Robert Welch, founder of the John Birch Society, an allegedly anticommunist organization, has criticized the Eisenhower Administration bitterly in the past. He once stated he felt a group having the appearance of a communist front would be effective in attracting true subversives.

THE S. E. MASSENGILL COMPANY
ESTABLISHED 1897
PHARMACEUTICALS
EXECUTIVE OFFICES AND LABORATORIES · BRISTOL, TENNESSEE · TELEPHONE — SOUTH 3-7000
DIVISIONS: NEW YORK · KANSAS CITY
SAN FRANCISCO
CABLE ADDRESS: SEMASSEN

March 13, 1960

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Parsons
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Evans
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Mr. W.C.Sullivan
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
Miss Gandy

Hon. J. Edgar Hoover
Director Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I will appreciate it very much if you will give me a report on the John Birch Society, whose organizer is Mr. Welch of Belmont, Massachusetts. Is it a reliable organization to fight Communism?

I was on a tour last summer, which included Russia, and I am eager to fight Communism in every way.

Sincerely,

Pauline M. DeFriece

Pauline M. DeFriece
(Mrs. Frank W. DeFriece)
Secretary-Treasurer
THE S. E. MASSENGILL COMPANY

PMD: CT

MAR 14 1961

EX 100 REC-33 62-104401-792

MAR 22 1961

3-17-61

3/31/60

4 62-[illegible]-793

REC-87

March 20, 1961

Virginia Tikkunen

Mrs. James H. Knorr
131 South Pershing
Wichita 18, Kansas

Dear Mrs. Knorr:

Your letter of March 8, 1961, has been received, and I appreciate your kind comments about the work being done by this Bureau.

While I would like to be of assistance with regard to your inquiry, the FBI, as strictly an investigative agency of the Department of Justice, does not furnish evaluations or comments relative to the character or integrity of any individual, organization or publication. I hope you will not infer in this connection either that our files do or do not contain data regarding the group you mentioned.

I am enclosing literature concerning the general subject of communism. You will notice that some of these reprints give suggestions relative to combating this menace.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (4) What You Can Do To Fight Communism
How to Fight Communism
Communist Party, USA
Communist Target - Youth

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles. The John Birch Society, an allegedly anticommunist organization, was organized by Robert Welch. Welch has been critical of the Eisenhower Administration in the past. He once stated that he felt a group having an appearance of a communist "front" could be effective in attracting true subversives.

SAW:plt (3)

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
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DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

RECEIVED
66 MAR 28 1961

19 MAR 27 1 37 PM '61

TRUE COPY

March 8th

Mrs. James H. Knorr

131 South Pershing, Wichita 18, Kansas

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover,
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover,

I have become increasingly alarmed about the Communist menace to our Country ever since reading your fine book, "Masters of Deceit." I really do want to help fight Communism, but I must be sure about the best way to do it.

The "John Birch Society" has been showing films here in Wichita, and I feel that they have been most successful in alerting many people to the present danger and getting them to read about what is going on. However, there has been much controversy about the "John Birch Society" in Wichita. What I want to know is - Is there any reason why we loyal Americans shouldn't join the Birch Society in order to fight Communism? Is this smear Campaign against it here just evidence that we do have many subversive groups in our city?

There are so many of us -- housewives and mothers - who want to do all in our power to help our Country. Please tell us how!

Thank you for taking time to help us. And, many thanks to you for all you have done and are doing for our United States.

Most Gratefully, 62-104401-793

REC-87

17 MAR 22 1961

Virginia T. Knorr
(Mrs. James H.)

1-TC-3-16-61-pet
ack 3-17-61
3/31/61

March 8th

Mrs. James H. Knorr

131 South Perching, Wichita

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Kinsch
Mr. Parsons
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Evans
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Mr. W.C.Sullivan
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
Miss Gandy

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover,
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover,

I have become increasingly alarmed about the Communist menace to our country ever since reading your fine book "Masters of Deceit". I really do want to help fight Communism, but I must be sure about the best way to do it.

CORRESPONDENCE

The "John Birch Society" has been showing films here in Wichita, and I feel that they have been

Mrs. James H. Knorr

131 South Pershing, Wichita 18, Kansas

most successful in alerting many people to the present danger and getting them to read about what is going on. However, there has been much controversy about the "John Birch Society" in Wichita. What I want to know is - Is there any reason why we loyal Americans shouldn't join the Birch Society in order to fight Communism? Is this smear campaign against it here just evidence that we do have many subversive

Mrs. James H. Knorr

131 South Pershing, Wichita 18, Kansas

groups in our city?

There are so many of us — housewives and Mothers — who want to do all in our power to help our Country. Please tell us how!

Thank you for taking time to help us. And, many thanks to you for all you have done and are doing for our United States.

Most Gratefully,
Virginia T. Knorr
(Mrs. James H.)

62-104101-794

REC-87

March 17, 1961

[redacted]

Mrs. [redacted]

[redacted]

Cochituate, Massachusetts

b6
b7C

Dear Mrs. [redacted]

Your letter postmarked March 10, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (3)
17th National Convention, CPUSA & 3-60 LEB Introduction
Director's Speech of 10-18-60
Expose of Soviet Espionage

see NOTE next page

RWE:lcl* (3)

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

66 MAR 28 1961

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

Letter to Mrs. [redacted]

b6
b7C

NOTE: Bufiles contain no record identifiable with correspondent. Robert Welch, founder of the John Birch Society, an allegedly anticommunist organization, has criticized the Eisenhower Administration bitterly in the past. He once stated he felt a group having the appearance of a communist front would be effective in attracting true subversives.

TRUE COPY

[redacted] b6 b7C

Cochituate, Mass.
March 8, 1961

J. Edgar Hoover, Dir.
Federal Bureau of Investigation
U.S. Dept. of Justice
Washington D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover,

For many months, at great lengths, I have been in a controversial argument with a friend and member concerning this John Birch Society. My contention is a knowledge of Communism and its destructiveness through reading; e.g. The FBI Story, Masters of Deceit, Expose of Soviet Espionage, can be more effective in helping us to recognize its threat. Further arguments would be too lengthy to bother with at this time. This week, the brief reference to the organization in Time ignited another "rather heated" discussion.

I turn to your department for some factual information.

BAUMGARDNER

Does this organization have a positive purpose?

Has it achieved any success in contributing to defeating the growth of Communism in this country?

Do you advocate such an organization or is it merely tolerated because it represents one of our freedoms and remains within legal boundaries?

This note represents a sincere effort to get at some facts about this organization, if facts are available. I am not interested in fighting it or joining it, unless of course it became too destructive, merely in having some factual information.

REC- 87 62-104401-794

Thank you for your consideration.

RWE

b6 b7C

Sincerely, MAR 22 1961

/s/ [redacted]

Cochituate, Mass.

Ack: 3/17/61
RWE:ed

True copy
3-11-61
mca

3/31/86 SPJmcamer

[redacted] b6 b7C

Cochituate, Mass.
March 8, 1961

J. Edgar Hoover Esq.
Federal Bureau of Investigation
U.S. Dept. of Justice
Washington D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover,

For many months, at great lengths, I have been in a controversial argument with a friend and member concerning this John Birch Society. My contention is a knowledge of Communism and its destructiveness through reading, e.g. The F.B.I. Story, Masters of Deceit, Expose of Soviet Espionage, can be more effective in helping us to recognize its threat. Further arguments would be too lengthy to bother with at this time. This week, the brief reference to the organization in Time ignited another "rather heated" discussion.

I turn to your department for some factual information.

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Has it achieved any success in contributing to defeating the growth of Communism in this

NRL 3-17-61
ack

country?

Do you advocate such an organization or is it merely tolerated because it represents one of our freedoms and remains within legal boundaries?

This note represents a sincere effort to get at some facts about this organization if facts are available. I am not interested in fighting it or joining it, unless of course it became too destructive, merely in having some factual information.

b6
b7C

Thank you for your consideration.

[redacted]

3. Cochituate, Mass.

RECD-CORR. & TOURS
RECEIVED FBI
MAR 20 3 01 AM '63 4 40 PM '61
INTERNAL SECURITY SECT.
FBI

3/5
25

65-10401-795

March 17, 1961

REC-84

Mrs. [redacted]

[redacted]

Pasadena 3, California

b6
b7C

Dear Mrs. [redacted]

I have received your letter of March 10, 1961, and I appreciate the concern which prompted you to write.

While I would like to be of assistance to you regarding your inquiries, the FBI is strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government and does not furnish evaluations or comments concerning the character or integrity of any individual, publication or organization. I hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the subject which you mentioned.

I firmly believe that it behooves all of us to make a concerted effort to gain a broad knowledge of the objectives and operations of the communist menace. A lack of understanding is dangerous in that it often results in the reprehensive and indiscriminate labeling as communists those who merely dissent or advocate unpopular or unorthodox views. Education is of great importance in this matter, for when fully aware of the aims of communism, we can all share in the opportunity to defeat it with the weapon it fears most--truth.

Sincerely yours,
J. Edgar Hoover

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

NOTE: Bufiles contain no information identifiable with the correspondent. The John Birch Society is allegedly an anticommunist movement and was founded by Robert Welch of Belmont, Massachusetts. The Bureau has conducted an inquiry concerning it.

66 MAR 28 1961

JWO B:dkp (3)

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

3/31/61

March 10, 1961

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

We support everything you do in your department 100 % and respect your judgement.

We have joined the John Birch Society and feel their stand on anti-socialism and anti-communism are sound and correct.

In our Los Angeles area, Pasadena and La Canada, we are receiving bitter criticism to the movement. Can you give us a recommendation on Mr. Welch and his background? Is it the same as what you stand for: Is there any reason why we should not be members of this group?

We have the uneasy feeling this could be a clever way for the Communists to get a list of names of people here in America with like thinking and this would certainly make their task of elemination very simple for them.

May we have an honest answer from you please?

Sincerely yours,

[redacted]

b6
b7C

Pasadena 3, California

MAR 14 1961

36

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Parsons
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Evans
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Mr. W.C.Sullivan
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
Miss Gandy

REC- 87

62-104451-295

17 MAR 22 1961

3/31/86

62-104401-796

March 20, 1961

REC-66

Mrs. [redacted]
[redacted]
Lafayette, Indiana

b6
b7C

Dear Mrs. [redacted]

Your letter of March 10, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write to me is appreciated.

In response to your request, I am enclosing a list of those organizations which have been cited by the Attorney General under Executive Order 10450. Another publication which may be of help to you is the "Guide to Subversive Organizations and Publications." I have been advised by the Government Printing Office that this pamphlet is now out of print, but it is possible you may be able to locate it at your public library.

While I would like to be of service to you in connection with the other matters you mentioned, the FBI, as an investigative agency, does not furnish comments or evaluations concerning the character or integrity of any individual, publication or organization. I hope you will not infer either that we do or do not have in our files data regarding the subjects of your inquiry.

In view of the interest you expressed, I am pleased to enclose some material pertaining to communism.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

Enclosures (5)

SEE NEXT PAGE

SEE NOTE NEXT PAGE

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

51 MAR 27 1961

CJH:njs (3)

Mrs. [redacted] b6 b7C

Enclosures (5)
Director's 10/18/60 Speech
Subversive Organizations List
What You Can Do To Fight Communism
Communist Target--Youth
Expose of Soviet Espionage

NOTE: Bufiles contain no information identifiable with correspondent. Robert Welch, founder of the John Birch Society, an allegedly anti-communist organization, has criticized the Eisenhower Administration bitterly in the past. He once stated he felt a group having the appearance of a communist front would be effective in attracting true subversives. Our files reflect no derogatory information concerning "Human Events," the Cardinal Mindszenty Foundation and the pamphlet, "Inside the Communist Conspiracy." The "American Mercury" is owned by Russell Maguire who is allegedly anticommunist and has a reputation of being bitterly anti-Semitic. The publication was the subject of a Registration Act investigation in 1958 based upon indications of an exchange of funds between Maguire and the Ambassador of the Dominican Republic. The allegation was not established and the case was closed in October, 1958. Bufiles contain no derogatory information regarding [redacted] "American Opinion" is published by Robert Welch of the John Birch Society. "Nine Men Against America" is an attack on the Supreme Court by Rosalie M. Gordon, who has been affiliated with John T. Flynn of the America First Committee. It is noted that branches of this latter organization were the subjects of Internal Security - G investigations during World War II. b6 b7C

TR COPY

March 10, 1961

Dear Mr. Hoover;

In this March 10th issue of Time Magazine, as you are most undoubtedly aware of, is this hair-raising article about the John Birch Society. May I have your opinion of The John Birch Society? Is it Communist infiltrated? What is your opinion of Robert Welch? We are leaders of an Anti-Communist study group in Lafayette, and know of several very respectable citizens of our community who have joined the Society last fall when The John Birch Society was in town to solicit members.

Also, may I have your opinion of such magazines, papers, etc. as Human Events, American Opinion, the American Mercury, also of Time Magazine. Also, do you approve of the Cardinal Minzsenty Foundation and the Christian Anti-Communist Crusade?

Also a pamphlet of suggested good reading, materials on Communism, called "Inside the Communist Conspiracy" by Phyllis Schlafly? Also do you approve of Rosalie M. Gordon who wrote "Nine Men Against America"?

Also could you please send me a copy of subversive and communist front organizations?

I am sure this will clear up for many of us our doubts about these questions. I will look forward to a reply from you very soon. Thank you!

REC- 66 62-104401-796

b6
b7C /s/ Mrs. [redacted]
[redacted] Lafayette, Ind.

EX-113

3/20/61
C 3H1 mp
1 TC 3/20/61 mp

3/31/86 3pmacmlg

March 10, 1961

Dear Mr. Hoover;

MAR 14 1961

In this March 10th issue of Time Magazine, as you are most undoubtedly aware of, is this hair-raising article about the John Birch Society. May I have your opinion of the John Birch Society? Is it Communist infiltrated? What is your opinion of Robert Welch? We are leaders of an Anti-Communist study group in Lafayette, and know of several very respectable citizens of our community who have joined the Society last fall when the John Birch Society was in town to solicit members.

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Also, may I have your

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Also could you please send me a copy of subversive and Communist front organizations? b6 b7C

I am sure this will clear up for many of us our doubts about these questions. I will look forward to a reply from you very soon. Thank you!

Mrs. [redacted]
[redacted] Lafayette, Ind.

12 DIRECTOR
3 APR 1962

62-104401-297

March 20, 1961

Mr. [redacted]
[redacted]
Austin 5, Texas

b6
b7C

Dear Mr. [redacted]

Your letter of March 10, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

While I would like to be of assistance, the FBI, as strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government, does not furnish evaluations or comments relative to the character or integrity of any individual, organization or publication. I hope you will not infer in this connection either that our files do or do not contain data regarding the subjects of your inquiry.

The film, "Operation Abolition," is sponsored and distributed by the House Committee on Un-American Activities and this Bureau had no connection with its preparation. As a matter of policy, I am unable, therefore, to make any comment concerning it. May I suggest that you direct your inquiry to the Committee which is located in Room 225, Old House Office Building, Washington 25, D. C.

It is my firm belief, however, that a broad knowledge of the communist conspiracy is essential if Americans are to effectively resist its influence. The FBI prepared a detailed account of the highly organized tactics employed by the Communist Party, USA in the California demonstrations. I am enclosing a copy in order that you may have the full background in this matter. An analysis of this report will show its purpose was not to defend the activities of the House Committee nor does it cast doubt on the motivation or loyalty of American youth. It is intended rather as urgent encouragement to young people to learn the true nature of this malevolent threat and, armed with that understanding, to resist being duped into unlawful or unthinking action.

Enclosed is additional material on the general subject of communism which may be of interest to you.

Tolson
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Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

66 MAR 28 1961

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (4) 17th Nat'l Convention & Intro. 3-60 LEB
Communist Party, USA — Communist Target--Youth
Series from Christianity Today

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

SAW:gcb (3)

SEE NOTE NEXT PAGE

b6
b7C

Mr. [redacted] 3-17-61

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles. Robert Welch, founder of the John Birch Society, an allegedly anticommunist organization, has criticized the Eisenhower Administration bitterly in the past. He once stated he felt a group having the appearance of a communist front would be effective in attracting true subversives. Dr. Fred C. Schwarz is known to the Bureau and is apparently capitalizing on his acitvities with the Christian Anti-Communism Crusade to promote literature he has written regarding communism.

TRUE COPY

3-10-61

Dear Mr Hoover

I am an average American citizen, and worried deeply about the Communists.

To get straight to the point, Some of the speakers against Communism, some of the organizations against communism, and a film against communism sounded and looked straight forward & honest to me. Now I have been told by a certain person that this isn't so, but they are all fakes. Namely, Dr. Schwartz is fake, The John Birch Society is completely fake and is a front itself. Also the film Operation Abolition is complete fake, and the rest of the reports on communist infiltration in churches is false. If you could, I wish from my heart that would send me a report on these subjects mentioned.

Sincerely

/s/ [redacted] b6 b7C

Austin 5, Tex

REC-87 62-104401-799

17 MAR 22 1961

EX-104

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mmlack. 3-15-61 20
SAW: jbw
tu-3-16-61

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/31/86 BY SPMacmile

3-10-61

Dear Mr Hoover

I am an average American citizen, and worried deeply about the Communists.

To get straight to the point, Some of the speakers against Communism, Some of the organizations against communism, and a film against communism sounded and looked straight forward & honest to me. Now I have been told by a certain person that this isn't so, but they are all fakes. Namely, Dr. Schwartz is fake, The John Birch Society is completely fake and is a front itself. Also the film Operation Abolition is complete fake, and the rest of the reports on communist infiltration in Churches is false. If you could, I wish from my heart that would send me a report on these subjects mentioned

Sincerely

Austin 5, Tex

b6
b7C

nmc ack. 3-17-61
SAW : jia
tc - 3-16-61

CORRESPONDENCE

3/31/86 Spinnaem

DO-6

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

file

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Parsons
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Evans
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Mr. Jones
Mr. W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
Miss Holmes
Miss Gandy

FC-93 (C) 124401 798

March 17, 1961

Mrs. [redacted]
Box [redacted]
Clayton, New Mexico

b6
b7C

Dear Mrs. [redacted]

Your letter of March 11, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest. You will notice that some of this material gives helpful suggestions for combating this atheistic menace.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Tolson
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Mohr
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Callahan
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DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

Enclosures (3)
(listed next page)

DCL:efr* (3)

see NOTE next page

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

66 MAR 27 1961

MAR 17 5 04 PM '61

3/31/86

Enclosures
Director's Speech 10-18-60
The Communists Are After Our Minds
Communist Party, USA

NOTE: Bufiles contain no identifiable record of correspondent. Robert Welch, founder of the John Birch Society, an allegedly anticommunist organization, has criticized the Eisenhower Administration bitterly in the past. He once stated he felt a group having the appearance of a communist front would be effective in attracting true subversives.

TRUE COPY

March 11, 1961

Dear Mr. Hoover,

I am utterly confused as to what I as an individual should do to resist communism and the welfare state.

The John Birch Society is being organized in this area. Do you think I should join them? I know you will not like to give ratings to groups of this kind, but with the power of this force much could be done.

Yours truly,

/s/ Mrs. [redacted]
Box [redacted]
Clayton, N. M.

b6
b7C

Bureau 79-9836
Acknowledge
Dir. Hoover

T. Off. 3-15-61 sfr

ack 3-17-61 DCL:sfr

send

DX-100

REC-96 2-104401-798

17 MAR 22 1961

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/31/86 BY Sommerpe

March 11, 1961

Dear Mr. Hoover,

I am utterly confused as to what I as an individual should do to resist communism and the welfare state.

The John Birch Society is being organized in this area. Do you think I should join them? I know you will not like to give ratings to groups of this kind, but with the power of this force much could be done.

Yours Truly,

Mrs. [redacted]

Box [redacted]

Clayton, N. M.

b6
b7C

ack 3-17-61
mail DeLiegh

3/31/86 SpMacemka

CORRESPONDENCE

REC-93 62-104401-799

March 21, 1961

Mrs. [redacted]

Charlotte, North Carolina

b6
b7C

Dear Mrs. [redacted]

Your letter of March 11, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

In response to your request, it is a pleasure to forward to you, under separate cover, 100 copies of each of the items you requested, except our poster, "What You Can Do To Fight Communism." Our supply of this poster is temporarily depleted; however, arrangements have been made for you to receive 100 copies when available. I regret that we are unable to fully comply with your request, but the demand for some of our literature is such that we cannot always fulfill individual requests. There is no charge for any of the material which this Bureau is privileged to distribute to the public.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

1 - D.C. Morrell - 4235
USC - 100 copies of EAch:
God and Country or Communism?
Communist Party, USA
One Nation's Response to Communism
Communism: The Bitter Enemy of Religion
Director's speech of 10-18-60

MAILED 8
MAR 21 1961
COMM-FBI

Tolson
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W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

NOTE: See next page

RWE:gcb (6)

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

66 MAR 27 1961

3/31/86 SPMacemka

NOTE: Bufiles indicate that by letter dated 2-27-61, correspondent was forwarded 2500 copies of "An Analysis of the 17th National Convention, CPUSA." She indicated in a prior letter that she was a member of the John Birch Society. Her request was trimmed to 100 copies. The John Birch Society is allegedly an anticommunist organization; however, Robert Welch, its founder, has stated that the Society might take on the appearance of a "front" in order to attract true subversives. During the Eisenhower Administration, Welch criticized the president to the point of calling him a dupe of the communists.

Follow-up made for Room 4237.

[redacted]
Charlotte, N. C.

b6
b7C

March 11, 1961

Mr. John Edgar Hoover, Director
Frderal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington 25, D. C.

John Birch Society

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Mr. [redacted] & I wish to thank you for all the materials you have so very graciously and generously sent us to help us in our fight against Communism.

b6
b7C

There just isn't enough time to do all we need to do--time seems to be running out fast---fortunately for us we have a man so dedicated as you are, who can give us the information needed so badly to combat this enemy.

Somehow, when people see your name as author of anti-Communist literature they seem to be a little more responsive. As Mr. [redacted] has mentioned to you at another time, we have over two hundred on a mailing list and Mr. [redacted] gives talks on this subject. At the risk of perhaps seeming greedy I would appreciate your sending us 300 of the following articles. That is 300 of each--please.

100 GOD AND COUNTRY OR COMMUNISM?

- COMMUNIST PARTY, USA

- ONE NATION'S RESPONSE TO COMMUNISM

out WHAT YOU CAN DO TO FIGHT COMMUNISM

- COMMUNISM: THE BITTER ENEMY OF RELIGION

- AMERICA--FREEDOM'S CHAMPION (Addresses at the National Convention of The American Legion, Miami Beach, Fla. October 18, 1960)

We realize that this is ordering in large quantities--and that it costs money to print these articles, so we are willing to cover cost.

We received the 2500 copies of "To all Law Enforcement Officials" Thank you so much.

100 REC-93 62-104401-799

Sincerely yours,

b6
b7C

[redacted]

MAR 22 1961

CORRESPONDENCE

mail
ack 3-21-61
RWE/jms

3/31/86

REC-93 62-107401 800

EX-114

March 17, 1961

Dr. [redacted]

[redacted]

Upland, California

b6
b7C

Dear Dr [redacted]

Your letter of March 10, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subjects of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (3)
Director's Speech of 10-18-61
The Communists Are After Our Minds
Communist Party, USA

see NOTE next page

SAW:lcl* (3)

Tolson
Parsons
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W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

56 MAR 28 1961

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Letter to Dr. [redacted] b6 b7C

NOTE: Robert Welch, founder of the John Birch Society, an allegedly anticommunist organization, has criticized the Eisenhower Administration bitterly in the past. He once stated he felt a group having the appearance of a communist front would be effective in attracting true subversives.

Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles. Howard D. Smoot, EOD 3-23-42, resigned 6-15-51, following censure, probation and transfer due to several unfounded charges made by him against his SAC, and due to his dereliction in not apprising the Bureau of certain matters. He was not recommended for reinstatement.

TRUE COPY

March 10 - 1961

Dear Mr Hoover:

I am very conscious of the Communist threat to our Country, & would certainly be anxious to do anything in our power to stop the menace.

Would you be so kind as to tell me the feelings of the F.B.I. concerning the "John Birch Society," & the validity of its monthly newsletter, & also your comments of Dan Smoot & his monthly publication.

Sincerely
Dr [redacted]
Upland, California

b6
b7C

1 true copy 3/16/61 rc

EX-114

REC-93 62-104401-800

ack: 3/17/61

Sent ed 17 MAR 22 1961

March 10 - 1961

Dear Mr Hoover;

I am very conscious of the Communist threat to our Country, & would certainly be anxious to do anything in our power to stop the menace.

Would you be so kind as to tell me the feelings of the F.B.I. concerning the "John Birch Society," & the validity of its monthly newsletter, & also your comments of Dan Smoot & his monthly publication.

Sincerely

Dr

b6
b7C

CORRESPONDENCE

Dom

Dom

3/31/86

MRC

ack: 3/17/61
SAW: ed

EX-114

REC-72 62-[illegible]/61 - 801

March 21, 1961

Mrs. [redacted]
[redacted]
Whittier, California

b6
b7C

Dear Mrs. [redacted]

3/31/61 Sonnacmra

Your letter postmarked March 12, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I would like to point out that this Bureau does not issue clearances of any type, and we have not sanctioned or cleared the organization in question. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (5)

Listed on Next page.

NOTE: No record could be located in Bufiles identifiable with correspondent. The John Birch Society is allegedly an anticommunist (See next page.)

RWE:plt (3)

Tolson
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W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

5 C MAR 28 1961

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b6
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Mrs. [redacted]

Enclosures (5)
17th National Convention & 3-60 LEB Intro.
Director's speech of 10-18-61
Communist Target--Youth
Expose of Soviet Espionage
One Nation's Response To Communism

NOTE continued:
organization; however, Robert Welch, its founder, has stated that the Society might take on the appearance of a "front" in order to attract true subversives. During the Eisenhower Administration, Welch criticized the president to the point of calling him a dupe of the communists.

TRUE COPY

March 8, 1961

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:

Because of recent wide spread publicity being given to the John Birch Society, and as a citizen who is interested in furthering honest anti-communist activities, I am desirous to know the stand or opinion taken toward this organization.

I have been informed by Birch Society members that this organization has been cleared by the F.B.I. as a non communistic one, and that it is whole heartedly approved by J. Edgar Hoover. Is this so?

Please advise me. I shall be very interested in your reply.

Very truly yours,

Mrs. [redacted] b6 b7C
[redacted]
Whittier, California

3/31/61 Spmaance

March 8, 1961

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:

Because of recent wide spread publicity being given to the John Birch Society, and as a citizen who is interested in furthering honest anti-communist activities, I am desirous to know the stand or opinion taken toward this organization.

I have been informed by Birch Society members that this organization has been cleared by the F.B.I. as a non communistic one, and that it is whole heartedly approved of by J. Edgar Hoover. Is this so?

Please advise me. I shall be very interested in your reply.

62-104401-801

Very truly yours,

Mrs. [redacted]

[redacted]

Written California

MAR 14 1961

REC-72

EX-114

17 MAR 14 1961

CORRESPONDENCE

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mailed 3-20-61
RWE/jfs

to 3-16-61/jfs

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62-104,01-802

REC-72

March 21, 1961

EX-101

Mr. [redacted]

[redacted]

Nashville 4, Tennessee

b6
b7C

Dear Mr. [redacted]

Your letter of March 13, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (5)

(listed next page)

DCL:efr*
(3)

see NOTE next page

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62 MAR 28 1961

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Mar 21 9 43 AM '61

Enclosures
What You Can Do To Fight Communism
How To Beat Communism
Director's Speech 10-18-60
Red Goals and Christian Ideals
One Nation's Response to Communism

NOTE: Bufiles contain no record identifiable with correspondent. Robert Welch, founder of the John Birch Society, an allegedly anticommunist organization, has criticized the Eisenhower Administration bitterly in the past. He once stated he felt a group having the appearance of a communist front would be effective in attracting true subversives.

[redacted]
3 Nashville 4, Tenn.
March 13, 1961

b6
b7C

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

During recent weeks several articles and editorials have appeared in the Nashville newspapers and in other newspapers around the country attacking the John Birch Society.

On the surface, this Society seems to have an admirable purpose. I certainly want to fight the spread of communism but hesitate to join an organization whose purpose is questionable.

It is my understanding that the John Birch Society has been and is currently under the survailance of the F.B.I., therefore, I would like to know just what is your opinion of the John Birch Society.

Very truly yours,

[redacted]

b6
b7C

EX 101

REC- 72 62-104401-802

MAR 22 1961

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CORRESPONDENCE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 3/31/86 Spmacmie

REC-72 62-10[illegible] 803

March 21, 1961

Mr. [redacted]
Weeki Wachee
Brooksville, Florida

b6
b7C

Dear Mr. [redacted]

Your letter of March 12, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

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Enclosures (5)
What You Can Do To Fight Communism
How To Beat Communism
Director's Speech of 10-18-60
Series from "Christianity Today"
One Nation's Response to Communism

see NOTE next page

63 MAR 28 1961

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Letter to Mr. [redacted] b6 b7C

NOTE: Bufiles contain no information identifiable with correspondent. Robert Welch, founder of the John Birch Society, an allegedly anticommunist organization, has criticized the Eisenhower Administration bitterly in the past. He once stated he felt a group having the appearance of a communist front would be effective in attracting true subversives.

Weeki Wachee

"SPRING OF THE MERMAIDS"

ON U. S. HI-WAY NO. 19 & FLA. HI-WAY NO. 50

BROOKSVILLE · FLORIDA

March 12, 1961

Dear Sir:

I was approached by someone the other day wanting me to join a group called the John Birch Society. It is suppose to be an anti-communist group, however I am very skeptical about such groups. They seem to be primarily interested in getting certain bills passed or vetoed.

Would you please inform me as to the validity of the John Birch Society. The book they put our is called the Blue Book. They advise members to read American Opinion.

Your attention to this matter will be greatly appreciated.

Kindest regards,

[redacted] b6 b7C

REC- 72 62-104401-803

CORRESPONDENCE

3/31/86

YOU HAVE TO SEE IT — TO BELIEVE IT

Los Angeles, California
March 12, 1961

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Parsons
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Wright
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Evans
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Mr. W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
Miss Gandy

Mr. Otis Chandler
Los Angeles Times
202 West First Street
Los Angeles, California

Dear Sir:

First of all, lest j'accuse, I am not a member of the John Birch Society but am sorely tempted to join it after reading the five articles last week and your editorial today.

The Los Angeles Times was at one time my trusted friend and guide. Your tacit and inexplicable approval of the Russian Festival shocked me, in fact, so much so that I have not attended any more Bowl performances since - nor will I until the Board of Directors come to their senses. Your attitude during the Republican campaign nearly finished my faith in you - your editorial on Mr. Nixon was your only worthwhile contribution and then it was too little and too late. Your editorial today finished off the last vestiges of my faith and trust in your judgment. I am grateful for one thing, however. I knew nothing about the John Birch Society before the first article on Sunday, March 5, 1961 - thank you for educating me.

Your "What to think" paragraphs are unbelievable and appalling. One small voice (or group) in this frightening morass dares to speak up and to question the higher echelons and you, of all people, denounce this group which obviously puts love of America and freedom above love of power, position, money and partisan politics.

The wealth of documented material available, proving how far and in how many ways this cancerous communistic and socialistic growth is progressing, apparently impresses you not at all. Fighting these destructive doctrines with their own weapons is obviously the only way to do it. I fail to see how documented statements of facts can be classed as 'smear tactics' and who questions the decency and loyalty of most Americans? Why this "red herring" across the trail? I, and many others, do at times question the aims and/or integrity of some officials and our right to do that, Mr. Chandler, is still our American prerogative, at least until this, too, is chained in the cellars along with other precious freedoms.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 3/31/86

62-109401-804

Our freedom was established by men fighting and dying for the ideals they believed in. All nations too lethargic to fight have been swallowed by the totalitarian states. The press could, and should be, the greatest force and asset a nation can have provided honesty, intelligence and logic is its guiding light.

REC-85

MAR 22 1961

EX-108

I'm not at all interested whether or not you publish this letter but should you do so it must be printed in its entirety. I disapprove of your partial quotes one day and corrections etc. the next. Either print it all or none at all.

66 MAR 29 1961

1 ENCLOSURE

CC: Robert Welch
Paul H. Talbert
J. Edgar Hoover

b6
b7C

(Mrs. [redacted]
Los Angeles 34, California

Peril to Conservatives

(An Editorial)

The Times published last week a heavily documented series of articles which defined the nature and methods of the John Birch Society in the words of its absolute master.

The quotations from Robert Welch, and from some of his lieutenants, nail down the treacherous fallacy that an honorable or noble objective justifies any means to achieve it.

Our fear of the John Birch Society is based on our own findings, on the meticulously researched articles written by Gene Blake. In them it can be read, within quotation marks, that Communists must be fought with their own weapons, smear for smear. Even—and the quotations are brutal—with sedition.

Every conservative must adhere to the general purpose of the society as it is stated by Robert Welch: "to promote less government, more responsibility and a better world."

Every loyal American must agree devoutly with the society's immediate intention of "stopping the Communists and destroying their conspiracy, or at least breaking its grip on our government and shattering its power within the United States."

And every informed American must agree with the society's tenet that the United States is actually now engaged with Soviet Russia in a struggle for the survival of our system.

With all honorable Americans, this newspaper looks with disgust and dread upon the godless materialism and blood-soaked tyranny of the Communist conspiracy. It is because of our people's disgust and dread that the Communists must seek their ends by secret subversion, by seducing officials, by discrediting our institutions, sowing distrust among us, aggravating union and racial disputes, entering without conscience into any course that will serve the purpose of Moscow.

Then what is likely to happen to the member of the John Birch Society who abandons all the rules by which he has lived his decent life, and adopts instead the techniques and the rules of conspiracy to fight Communists in Communist fashion?

If the John Birchers follow the program of their leader, they will bring our institutions into question exactly as the Communists try to do. They will sow distrust, and aggravate disputes, and they will weaken the very strong case for conservatism.

What are we to think when our last three Presidents, Roosevelt, Truman and Eisenhower, are accused either of being Communists or Communist dupes?

What are we to think when these charges are leveled against Secretary of State John Foster Dulles, against his brother Allen who heads our vital Central Intelligence Agency, against the Chief Justice of our Supreme Court?

What are we to think when the honor and integrity of the Vice President of the United States, the Republican Party's nominee for President, are questioned?

What are we to think when we are told that our nation's press almost without exception is Communist infiltrated and inspired?

What are we to think when we are told that our churches almost without exception are corroded with active agents of Moscow?

What is happening to us when all loyal Americans are accused of being Communist dupes unless they subscribe to the radical and dictatorial direction of one self-chosen man?

All sincere conservatives must ask themselves these questions. And they must answer them.

The Times believes implicitly in the conservative philosophy. It has challenged all these men and most of these institutions on the soundness of one or more issues. But The Times does not believe that the argument for conservatism can be won—and we do believe it can be won—by smearing as enemies and traitors those with whom we sometimes disagree.

Subversion, whether of the left or the right, is still subversion.

Los Angeles Times Sunday, March 12, 1961

OTIS CHANDLER, Publisher, The Times.

3/30/86 Sprinkle

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REC-85
EX-114

62-100-1-805

March 17, 1961

Mrs. [redacted]
[redacted]
Midland, Texas [redacted]

b6
b7C

Dear Mrs. [redacted]

Your letter was received on March 13, 1961, and I want to thank you sincerely for the confidence you and your husband have expressed in the work being done by the FBI. Your prayers are also appreciated.

Although I would like very much to be of service, the functions and responsibilities of the FBI as a Federal investigative agency do not extend to furnishing evaluations or drawing conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files concerning the group you named.

In view of your interest, I am enclosing publications available for general distribution by the FBI on the subject of communism.

Sincerely yours,

Enclosures (5)

How To Beat Communism
3-60 LEB Introduction & 17th Convention
Director's speech 10-18-60
~~Press Release 12-22-60~~
Series from "Christianity Today"
One Nation's Response to Communism

(See NOTE next page)

Tolson
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Ingram
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DCL:elw (3)

19 MAR 20 PM '61

3/31/86

Mrs. [redacted] 3-16-61

b6
b7C

NOTE: Neither correspondent nor her husband is identifiable in Bufiles. No reference is being made in outgoing relative to the rumor that Mr. Hoover is contemplating retirement, since Mrs. [redacted] probably is not making reference to this rumor in her last paragraph.

The John Birch Society is allegedly an anticommunist organization; however, Robert Welch, its founder, has stated that the Society might take on the appearance of a "front" in order to attract true subversives. During the Eisenhower Administration, Welch criticized the President to the point of calling him a dupe of the communists.

TRUE COPY

[redacted]
Midland, Texas

b6
b7C

Dear Mr. Hoover:

As a prospective member and strong supporter of the John Birch Society, I am concerned about its critics. For such a cause I am certainly willing to face criticism if the F.B.I. considers it a worthwhile organization.

Will you please inform me whether you have unfavorable information about this organization. Realizing it is easy to be duped into believing Communist front organizations are patriotic causes, I felt I should write you first.

May I express the appreciation of my husband & myself for your fine work toward reducing the Communist menace. As long as you remain at the helm, we feel the Federal Bureau of Investigation remains safe. We offer our prayers for your guidance.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

EX-114
REC-85

b6
b7C

/s/ [redacted]

(Mrs. [redacted]

62-104401-805

5 MAR 22 1961

3/31/66

1 T.C. 3-15-61

[redacted] b6 b7C

Midland, Texas

Dear Mr. Hoover:

As a prospective member and strong supporter of the John Birch Society, I am concerned about its critics. For such a cause I am certainly willing to face criticism if the J.B.S. considers it a worthwhile organization.

Will you please inform me whether you have unfavorable information about this organization. Realizing it is easy to be duped into believing Communist front organizations are patriotic causes, I felt I should write you first.

May I express the appreciation of my husband & myself for your fine work toward reducing the Communist menace. As long as you remain at the helm, we feel the Federal Bureau of Investigation remains safe. We offer our prayers for your guidance.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

[redacted] b6 b7C

CORRESPONDENCE

3/31/61 Spinnanne

ITU 3-15-61

REC- 85

62-[illegible] 806

March 17, 1961

Mr. [redacted]
[redacted]
Midland, Texas

b6
b7C

TOL XM Dear Mr. [redacted]

I have received your letter of March 10, 1961, and I do appreciate your generous remarks and good wishes.

I firmly believe that it behooves every one of us to make a concerted effort to gain a broad knowledge of the objectives and operations of the communist menace. This is vitally essential if Americans are to effectively resist its influence. A lack of understanding is dangerous in that it is often responsible for the reprehensive and indiscriminate labeling as communists those who merely dissent or advocate unpopular or unorthodox views. Education is of strategic importance in this matter, for when fully cognizant of the aims of communism, we can all share in the opportunity to defeat it with the weapon it fears most--truth.

In view of your interest in the subject of communism I am enclosing several items which you may like to have.

Sincerely yours,
J. Edgar Hoover

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Enclosures (4)
Listed next page.

SEE NOTE NEXT PAGE

JWO'B:lc (3)

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

MAR 28 1961

3/31/86

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Parsons
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Evans
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Mr. W.C.Sullivan
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
Miss Gandy

b6
b7C [redacted] Midland, Texas
March 10, 1961

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

It is with heartfelt thanks to God for men like yourself that I am writing to you.

I want to express my appreciation to you for the great work you and your organization have done over the years for the cause of Freedom and Liberty in our beloved America.

It is this cause to preserve and protect our heritage that is most important now. It is in the greatest danger that it has ever been. My great concern is that the American people, through complacency and self-indulgence, will allow our country to be destroyed by international communism from within our own borders.

It was with this danger in mind that I became a member of the John Birch Society so that my efforts could be more effective in defeating this terrible menace. The principles of our society, to reduce the size of Government, restore individual responsibility and make the world a better place for all people, are something worth working for.

My prayers are that your position will not be jeopardized by the concentrated smear that the communists and their dupes are presently using against you and the House Committee on Unamerican Activities.

May it be God's will that the American people be enlightened about the threat of slavery facing us and of the efforts by yourself and others to defeat that threat.

Sincerely,

b6
b7C [redacted]

6 MAR 22 1961

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807

March 20, 1961

Dr. Jerre L. Noland
4018 Brownlee Road
Louisville 7, Kentucky

3/31/86 Spmacmke

Dear Dr. Noland:

Your letter of March 10, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

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Enclosures (3)
(listed next page)

SAW:efr* (3)

see NOTE next page

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66 MAR 24 1961

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Enclosures
Director's Speech 10-18-60
The Communists Are After Our Minds
Communist Party, USA

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles
Robert Welch, founder of the John Birch Society, an allegedly anticommunist organization, has criticized the Eisenhower Administration bitterly in the past. He once stated he felt a group having the appearance of a communist front would be effective in attracting true subversives.

Enclosures
What you can to to Fight Communism
17th National Convention CP, USA & 3-60 LEB Intro.
Communist Target--Youth
One Nation's Response to Communism

NOTE: Bufiles contain no record of the correspondent. He signs himself a member of the John Birch Society but does not ask our opinion of it. The John Birch Society was founded by Robert Welch in Belmont, Massachusetts. It is allegedly an anticommunist organization. We have conducted an inquiry concerning it.

JERRE L. NOLAND, Ph D
4018 Brownlee Road
Louisville 7, Ky.
TW 6-6923

March 10, 1961

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I would appreciate receiving information regarding the John Birch Society, with headquarters in Belmont, Massachusetts.

The members whom I have met appear to be serious minded, dedicated American citizens who are united in the common cause of fighting Communism. On the other hand, some recent publicity (Louisville Courier Journal, February 19, 1961; Time Magazine, March 10, 1961) has been so critical of the society that the question has arisen whether membership in this group is consistent with good citizenship.

I am a civil service employee of the Veterans Administration and an officer in the United States Army Reserve, so that your opinion of this organization will be valuable to me and to my friends who may find themselves in a similar situation.

Very sincerely yours,

Jerre L Noland

Dr. JERRE L. NOLAND, Ph.D.
Chief, Medical Research Laboratory
Veterans Administration Hospital

ack 3-27-61 SAW

REC-113

62-184401-807

17 MAR 22 1961

CORRESPONDENCE

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62-104401-808

REC-93

March 21, 1961

Mr. [redacted]

Glendive, Montana

b6
b7C

Dear Mr. [redacted]

3/31/86

Your letter of March 13, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

MAR 21 4 07 PM '61

Enclosures (5)
What You Can Do To Fight Communism
How To Beat Communism
Director's Speech of 10-18-60
Series from "Christianity Today"
One Nation's Response to Communism

see NOTE next page

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56 MAR 27 1961

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DCL:lcl* (3)

Letter to Mr. [redacted]

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NOTE: Bufiles contain no record identifiable with correspondent. Robert Welch, founder of the John Birch Society, an allegedly anticommunist organization, has criticized the Eisenhower Administration bitterly in the past. He once stated he felt a group having the appearance of a communist front would be effective in attracting true subversives.

b6
b7C

[redacted]

Glendive, Montana
March 13, 1961

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

I would like some information concerning the John Birch Society and here is what I want to know: Is this organization against Communism or is it supporting Communism? Is this society worth having contact with?

I would appreciate literature and advise concerning this organization. I would like to know also what I can do as a citizen of United States of America to help combat the spread of Communism in our nation.

I would appreciate to hear from the F.B.I. as soon as possible.

b6
b7C

[redacted]

NP

REC-93 62-104401-808

REC-93 62-104451-809

March 21, 1961

Mrs. [redacted]
[redacted]
Camarillo, California

b6
b7C

Dear Mrs. [redacted]

Your letter postmarked March 11, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

I regret to advise that, as a matter of policy, I am unable to recommend any organizations to you. I hope you will understand my position in this respect. Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Tolson
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W.C. Sullivan
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Ingram
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Enclosures (5)
3-1-60 LEB Introduction & 17th National Convention
One Nation's Response to Communism
Christianity Today Series
Expose of Soviet Espionage
Communist Target--Youth
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NOTE NEXT PAGE

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56 MAR 27 1961

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NOTE: No record could be located in Bufiles identifiable with correspondent. Robert Welch, founder of the John Birch Society, an allegedly anticommunist organization, has criticized the Eisenhower administration bitterly in the past. He once stated he felt a group having ~~forming~~ the appearance of a communist "front" would be effective in attracting true subversives.

TRUE COPY

[redacted]
Camarillo, Cal.
March 10, 1961.

b6
b7C

F. B. I.
Washington D. C.

Gentlemen:

I have been reading very controversial opinions in regard to "The John Birch Society."

Will you please send me the opinion of the F. B. I. as far as its being a Patriotic Organization is concerned.

Please suggest other groups which are American.

Thank You -

/s/ Mrs. [redacted]

b6
b7C

3/31/61 [illegible]

pltr.

REC-93 62-104401-809

5 MAR 22 1961

EX-113

1 tc
3/20/61

CORRESPONDENCE

b6
b7C [redacted]

Camarillo, Cal.
March 10, 1961.

F. B. I.
Washington D.C.

Gentlemen:

I have been reading very controversial opinions in regard to "The John Birch Society".

Will you please send me the opinion of the F.B.I. as far as it being a Patriotic Organization is concerned.

Please suggest other groups which are American.

Thank You - Mrs. [redacted]

b6
b7C

CORRESPONDENCE

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1+C 3/20/61 jal

3/31/61 Spinnaccia

EX-114

REC-64

62-104401-810

March 17, 1961

Mr. [redacted]
Washburn, North Dakota

b6
b7C

Dear Mr. [redacted]

Your letter dated March 10, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Tolson
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Conrad
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Malone
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Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
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Enclosures (3)
(listed next page)

DCL:efr* (3)

3/31/86 Spracmer

see NOTE next page

63 MAR 28 1961

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

MAR 1 49 PM '61

Enclosures
Communist Party, USA
The Communists Are After Our Minds
Expose of Soviet Espionage

NOTE: Bufiles contain no record identifiable with correspondent. Robert Welch, founder of the John Birch Society, an allegedly anticommunist organization, has criticized the Eisenhower Administration bitterly in the past. He once stated he felt a group having the appearance of a communist front would be effective in attracting true subversives.

Washburn, North Dakota

March 10, 1961

J. Edgar Hoover

Federal Bureau of Investigation

Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover,

The purpose of this letter is to ask the opinion of your organization about the John Birch Society. Do you consider membership in the society an effective means of doing something to oppose communism? Is it a good, patiotic American group which warrants the support of patriots who want to keep America American?

I feel that I must do what I can to promote a rebirth of patriotism in our country. I am a school teacher by profession trying to do what is right. If the above group is not one solution, what should one do?

I shall sincerely appreciate your answers to the above questions.

b6
b7C

[redacted]

EX-114

62-104401-810

MAR 22 1961

REC-64

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: 3/21/61

FROM : SAC, CINCINNATI (100-13536)

SUBJECT: THE JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS
INFORMATION CONCERNING;

ROBERT H. WELCH, JR.
INTERNAL SECURITY

3/31/86 [illegible]

EX 104

REC-19

The following information is submitted for the Bureau's information in accordance with SAC letters 59-13 and 60-5:

b6
b7C
b7D

On 1/13/61, Mr. [redacted] (Protect Identity requested), Jewish Community Council, 184 Salem Avenue, Dayton, O., furnished the following information to SA [redacted]

The Jewish Communist Council, at Dayton, has received information that The John Birch Society of Boston, Massachusetts, presently has several members in the Dayton, Ohio, area whose identities are unknown.

Mr. [redacted] described The John Birch Society as an organization which purports to fight Communism. He said, however, that he has learned that a speaker of this Society has stated at a meeting that "We will have to give up some of our democratic processes to achieve our aims". This organization has, in the past, called President EISENHOWER a Communist.

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A local source of Mr. [redacted] has advised him that there are two known members of this Society in Dayton whose identities were not disclosed. Mr. [redacted] said that this organization is basically composed of Catholics; that it is an extreme right-wing group; and that although it is not a violent type of organization, it definitely has "anti-Semitic overtones". Mr. [redacted] further advised that a source in Boston, Massachusetts, has advised the Anti-Defamation League that this group is definitely anti-Semitic and has the backing of considerable wealth.

-C-

2 - Bureau (RM)
1 - Cincinnati
AGJ:jm (3)

REC-28 62-104401-811

15 MAR 23 1961

51 MAR 29 1961

According to Mr. [redacted] JOHN BIRCH was an individual killed by the Communists in China. The John Birch Society is supposedly backed by a candy manufacturer by the name of WELCH.

b6
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Mr. [redacted] said that his organization, which is affiliated with the Anti-Defamation League, is definitely interested in this organization in view of the allegations of anti-Semetism. He said that his organization has a source of information at Dayton, Ohio, which is furnishing information concerning the Dayton "cell" of The John Birch Society. He said that the source is concerned with [redacted] since it is conceivable that this organization may, at some subsequent date, be cited by the United States Attorney General pursuant to Executive Order 10450. Mr. [redacted] stated that if the Bureau desired further information concerning the Dayton activities of this group, he would be glad to identify his source and make arrangements for contact.

On 3/10/61, Mr. [redacted] advised that he has ascertained that the John Birch Society at Dayton is composed of 15 to 24 people, exact number unknown, [redacted] being one [redacted] at Dayton. He said that the society is active on the campus of the University of Dayton, and that a [redacted] at the university is associated with this group. According to Mr. [redacted] source of information, this group has a membership fee of $12.00 for women and $24.00 for men. He said that he knows of no militant activity planned by them, but that he anticipates they will be active in writing letters to editors of local newspapers which will reflect the views of the group. Mr. [redacted] said that he feels that the local group will oppose any efforts to abolish the House Committee on Un-American Activities and take other action along the same line.

OHIO

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Mr. [redacted] stated that if he should receive any further pertinent information concerning The John Birch Society or its founder, ROBERT H. WELCH, JR., he would advise the Dayton RA.

CI 100-13536

In accordance with mentioned SAC letters, the Cincinnati Division is conducting no investigation concerning this matter, and will promptly advise the Bureau in the event further information is volunteered by Mr. [redacted] b6 b7C b7D

REC-84 -104401-812

EX-108

March 22, 1961

Mr. [redacted]
222 62nd Street
Newport Beach, California

b6
b7C

Dear Mr. [redacted]

Your letter postmarked March 11, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

Sincerely yours,
J. Edgar Hoover

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W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

Enclosures (5)
(listed next page)

see Note next page

RWE:efr*
(3)

MAIL ROOM
TELETYPE UNIT

MAR 31 1961

Enclosures
What You Can Do To Fight Communism
How To Beat Communism
Director's Speech 10-18-60
Red Goals and Christian Ideals
One Nation's Response to Communism

NOTE: Bufiles contain no record identifiable with correspondent. Robert Welch, founder of the John Birch Society, an allegedly anticommunist organization, has criticized the Eisenhower Administration bitterly in the past. He once stated he felt a group having the appearance of a communist front would be effective in attracting true subversives. Bureau material has been made available to Dr. Frederick C. Schwarz and others affiliated with the Christian Anti-Communism Crusade. Sullivan to Belmont memo of 9-22-60 indicates that when a representative of the Bureau spoke before the Dallas Freedom Forum in September (which sponsored a school on communism at that time directed by Dr. Schwarz,) the Agent commented that Schwarz made several "pitches" for articles in a book he had written on communism and his publications were displayed. Neither he nor his organization has been investigated by the Bureau. At the present time, we are discouraging the distribution of material to this organization and those affiliated with it.

TRUE COPY

[redacted]
NEWPORT BEACH
CALIFORNIA

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPT. OF JUSTICE
J. EDGAR HOOVER, DIRECTOR

SIRS:

b6
b7C

I WOULD APPRECIATE THE OPINION OF YOUR OFFICE ON THE FOLLOWING:

THE CHRISTIAN ANTI-COMMUNIST CRUSADE
THE JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY.

VERY TRULY YOURS

/s/ [redacted]

REC- 84 62-104401-812

MAR 23 1961

X-108

1 - copy
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8-RWE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/31/86 Spmacmc

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b7C

[redacted]

NEWPORT BEACH
CALIFORNIA

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPT. OF JUSTICE
J. EDGAR HOOVER, DIRECTOR

SIRS:

I WOULD APPRECIATE THE OPINION OF YOUR OFFICE ON THE FOLLOWING:

THE CHRISTIAN ANTI-COMMUNIST CRUSADE
THE JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY.

VERY TRULY YOURS

b6
b7C

[redacted]

mml
3-22-61
Rec'd

3/31/61

1 - Mr. Parsons
1 - Mr. Belmont
1 - Liaison
1 - Mr. Baumgardner
1 - Mr. Kleinkauf

REC-9 62-104401-813

EX-113

Date: March 21, 1961

To: Office of Security
Department of State

From: John Edgar Hoover, Director

Subject: JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY
INFORMATION CONCERNING
(INTERNAL SECURITY)

3/31/26 Sp/Macmre

Reference is made to your letter dated March 13, 1961, which enclosed a copy of a letter to the Secretary of State from [redacted] dated February 27, 1961, and which requested information concerning the John Birch Society (JBS).

b6
b7C

Our files disclose that the JBS was organized in Indianapolis, Indiana, in December, 1958, by Robert H. Welch, Jr., a candy manufacturer of Belmont, Massachusetts, in order to further Welch's anticommunist campaign. It was incorporated on December 23, 1958, as a nonprofit business organization under the laws of the State of Massachusetts. The aims and purposes of the organization were listed as to promote civic interest in national and international affairs by an educational program and the collection and dissemination of literature for educational purposes. Welch has characterized the long-range objective of the JBS as "less government, more responsibility and a better world."

In an article "The Wrong Way to Fight Reds" by Jack Mabley in the January 30, 1961, issue of the "Chicago Daily News," a Chicago, Illinois, daily newspaper, Mabley comments on Welch and the Society. Mabley states Welch,

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W.C. Sullivan
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Ingram
Gandy

2 - Los Angeles (Enclosures - 2)(See note on page three)

RJR:mar
(11)

SEE NOTE ON YELLOW, PAGE FOUR

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

62 MAR 28 1961

by his own words, is absolute boss of the Society and quotes Welch as saying the Society must be run by a "hard-boiled, dictatorial and dynamic boss." Hebley sums up his article by stating the communist threat in this country is real enough; the country needs the energy and interest of every citizen who will work to counteract communist evil; but "the unbelievable irresponsibility espoused secretly by Welch can bring only scorn and harm to real anti-Communist work."

Welch authored a book entitled "The Politician," which he did not have published but had a limited number of copies printed, which he sent to friends who he believed would be interested in its contents. A review of this book disclosed it was a vicious attack on the political beliefs of former President Eisenhower and, by innuendo, alluded to President Eisenhower as being procommunist.

Welch also publishes a magazine "American Opinion," which was incorporated January 13, 1956, under the laws of the State of Massachusetts, and which he also uses as an outlet for his anticommunist crusade. As an example of the type of material which appears in "American Opinion" an article was published in the October, 1959, edition entitled "A Review of Reviews" written by Revilo P. Oliver, a professor at the University of Illinois. This article contained allegations that between 70 and 80 per cent of the responsible officers in the Department of Health, Education and Welfare (HEW) are members or accomplices of the communist conspiracy. This appears to be a follow-up of a speech made by Oliver in March, 1959, at which time he allegedly stated that one third of the top echelon of the communist conspirators in this country are in the HEW and stated his source was Herbert Philbrick. Philbrick, a former FBI informant, upon interview has denied giving Oliver any information concerning communist infiltration of the HEW. Our files disclose that Philbrick never furnished such information to the FBI.

Office of Security
Department of State

This Bureau has not received any information which would indicate that the activities of Welch or the JBS come within the investigative jurisdiction of the FBI.

1 - Director
Central Intelligence Agency

Attention: Deputy Director, Plans

ATTENTION: SAC, LOS ANGELES

Attached is a copy of the letter from the Department of State dated 3/13/61 and a copy of the letter of [redacted] to the Secretary of State dated 2/27/61.

Miss [redacted] indicates in her letter that she has additional information to furnish. Inasmuch as the Bureau was not provided a copy of the State Department's reply to Miss [redacted] letter, you are instructed to have an agent immediately interview her, providing the files of your office do not contain information which would preclude such an interview, and advise her that our contact with her has been prompted by the referral of her letter to the FBI. Explain the jurisdiction and responsibilities of the FBI in the internal security field to her and that we are interested in any information she may have in this regard. Follow the instructions outlined in SAC Letters 59-13 (F) dated 3/10/59 and 60-5 (C) dated 1/26/60 pertaining to this organization. Immediately furnish the results of this contact to the Bureau.

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Bureau indices contain no identifiable subversive derogatory information concerning Miss [redacted]. Bufiles indicate the American Association for the United Nations, Inc., (100-377086), is not an organ of the United Nations, but is an association formed to carry on educational activities to the end that the United States may cooperate to the fullest extent practicable in official international organizations functioning in the various fields of international cooperation. The FBI has never investigated the American Association for the United Nations, Inc.

Office of Security
Department of State

b6
b7C

NOTE ON YELLOW:

The field has been instructed in SAC Letters 59-13 (F) and 60-5 (C) to keep the Bureau advised concerning the JBS and that the Bureau is particularly interested in any efforts by subversive elements to take over or use JBS or its chapters. Miss [redacted] letter to the Secretary of State on the letterhead of the American Association for the United Nations, Inc., Santa Barbara County Chapter, states that her information is probably beyond the scope of the FBI and that she would be willing to be interviewed by someone from CIA or the State Department.

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
5010-108-01

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: 3/21/61

FROM C/ SAC, Norfolk (105-New)

SUBJECT: THE JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY
INFORMATION CONCERNING (INTERNAL SECURITY)

On 3/9/61, Mrs. [redacted] The Book Nook, 116 College Place, Norfolk, Virginia, advised that The John Birch Foundation or Society had recently held a meeting in a room at the Lafayette Yacht Club, Norfolk. She stated the object of the meeting was to form a chapter of the John Birch Society in Norfolk and the object of the John Birch Society is to fight communism.

b6
b7C

She stated that the annual dues are $24.00 for men and $12.00 for women and that a life membership can be obtained for $1,000.00.

Mrs. [redacted] stated that a young man whose name she does not know but who was allegedly from Richmond, Virginia, showed a film regarding the life of JOHN BIRCH at the meeting held in Norfolk. She stated that she got the impression that a chapter of The JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY had been organized in Richmond. Mrs. [redacted] stated that literature was sold to those present and that this included the following:

(1) The Life of John Birch, by ROBERT H. W. WELCH, JR.

(2) American Opinion, Volumn II, Number I, January 1959
This contains bibliographies of various books regarding communism and reflects that it is intended primarily for reference purposes.

3/31/61 Johnson

2 - Bureau (RM)
1 - Richmond (Info)(RM)
1 - Norfolk

MES:scl
(4)

REC-93 105-[illegible]-814

NOV 23 1961

EX-108

INV SEC.

62 MAR 30 1961

(3) The Blue Book of the John Birch Society, Third Printing Copyright 1959 by ROBERT WELCH.

This book reflects that The John Birch Society was founded in Indianapolis on 12/9/58. As of the first anniversary date, it had working chapters in New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York, Virginia, South Carolina, Florida, Tennessee, Michigan, Illinois, Wisconsin, Iowa, Louisiana, Texas, California, and Washington.

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Mrs. [redacted] stated that the local people in Norfolk who seemed to be the leaders in attempting to form a chapter of The John Birch Society in Norfolk were WILLIAM McKENDREE, FRANK R. FORD, and Mrs. J. ADDISON HAGAN. She stated that she understood that Mrs. HAGAN is a lifetime member of The John Birch Society.

The Norfolk files reflect that WILLIAM I. McKENDREE resides at 9443 Willow Terrace, Norfolk; that he is owner of the WILLIAM I. McKENDREE COMPANY (duplicating machines), 245 W. Bute Street, Norfolk; and has been an active member of the Defenders of State Sovereignty and Individual Liberties (DSSIL).

On 11/19/55, WILLIAM McKENDREE advised SA HARRY L. McCARTHY of this office that he was a member of the DSSIL and that this group was very anti-communist in its nature and objectives. He stated that he personally had given some public talks against communism.

The Norfolk Ledger Dispatch Newspaper, on 4/11/59, contained an article entitled "Defenders File 3 Candidates For House". This article reflects that three DSSIL-backed candidates announced on 4/11/59 they will seek election to the House of Delegates. One of those named was W. I. McKENDREE. The newspaper identified McKENDREE as one of the founders of the Norfolk Chapter of the DSSIL and the Tidewater Educational Foundation, Inc.

NF 105-New

An article appearing in the Norfolk Virginian-Pilot Newspaper of 11/11/57 reflected that two Norfolk men had been elected to posts in the State organization of the DSSIL. The article further reflected that FRANK R. FORD, Norfolk jeweler, had been named a State Vice-President. The article also reflected that both FORD and HAGAN were members of the Board of the Norfolk Chapter of the organization.

The Norfolk files reflect that JOSEPH ADDISON HAGAN resides at 524 Warren Crescent, Norfolk; that he is the owner of Hagan Sales Company, 820 W. 21st Street, Norfolk (manufacturer's representative).

A mimeographed leaflet carrying the heading "Defenders of State Sovereignty and Individual Liberties, Norfolk Chapter", reflected that a meeting of this group was to be held on 10/18/60. This leaflet was signed: Defenders of State Sovereignty, J. Addison Hagan, President, Norfolk Chapter.

J. ADDISON HAGAN is also carried as the victim in Norfolk File 9-256; Bufile 9-34513.

No investigation is being conducted concerning The John Birch Society, UACB; however, any additional information received regarding this organization will be promptly furnished to the Bureau.

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b7C

Information copy of this letter being sent Richmond since Mrs. [redacted] reported a man from Richmond was in attendance at the Norfolk meeting of entitled organization.

62-104401-815

REC-93

March 16, 1961

Mr. [redacted]
Post Office Box [redacted]
Santa Barbara, California

b6
b7C

Dear Mr. [redacted]

Your letter of March 6, 1961, with enclosure, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I hope you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry. I regret that I am unable to comment on the situation which you described in your communication.

Enclosed is some material dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (5)

3-60 LEB Introduction & 17th National Convention
Director's speech 10-18-60
Communist Target--Youth
Expose of Soviet Espionage
Series from "Christianity Today"

(See NOTE next page)

Tolson
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W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

62 MAR 28 1961

RWE:elw (3)

MAR 16 1 26 PM '61

FBI

3/31/06

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Mr. [redacted]

NOTE: No record could be located in Bufiles identifiable with correspondent. Enclosure was a newspaper article from an unidentified newspaper concerning the fact that special leaflets issued by the John Birch Society had been ordered by the California Association of School Administrators.

The John Birch Society is allegedly an anticommunist organization; however, Robert Welch, its founder, has stated that the Society might take on the appearance of a "front" in order to attract true subversives. During the Eisenhower Administration, Welch criticized the president to the point of calling him a dupe of the communists.

P.O.Box [redacted]
Santa Barbara, Calif.
March 6, 1961

b6
b7C

Mr. J.Edgar Hoover, Director,
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Justice Department,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I am taking the liberty of sending you the enclosed clipping, taken from the News Press of Santa Barbara a few days ago. My purpose in sending it may need some clarification.

About two weeks ago, the News Press started a campaign of attack on the John Birch Society here in Santa Barbara, and have followed it up with daily pounding ever since. The gist of the attack consisted of claims that this Society was a menace to the community, a security risk, and that it was doubtless subversive. The only reasons given for the attack was that their leader Mr. Welch had said some things uncomplimentary regarding Mr. Eisenhower. Although the members here are not in accord with Mr. Welch's statements, still the News Press holds them responsible for the statements. Regardless of the wisdom of such attacks, the reason for my enclosure of the clipping is that, in view of the fact that the whole status of the John Birch Society is controversial, with no evidence that these attacks are justified, it would seem to me that the act of sending 3000 copies of these leaf- to the California Association of School Administrators for distribution throughout the schools is setting a dengerous precedent of unfair propaganda in a fashion which should be prohibited by some enforcement agency, either State or Federal. Am I right?

REC-93 62-104401-815
EX-108 11 MAR 23 1961

Very truly yours,

b6
b7C

3/31/61 Approaches

CONFIDENTIAL

Special Leaflets With John Birch Articles Go Fast

Of an initial printing of 5,000 leaflets containing recent News-Press articles and editorials about the John Birch Society, less than 500 were unordered at noon today.

Public interest in the leaflets has been such that even with only word-of-mouth publicity, the special printing was practically gone today.

One of the largest orders—for 3,000 leaflets—came from the California Association of School Administrators, which plans to distribute them to all administrators of elementary, secondary and junior college districts in the state.

The News-Press has received hundreds of letters and telephone calls commenting on its recent articles and editorials about the society. It has also received hundreds of requests for clippings of the published material.

The 5,000 leaflets were printed because of that demand.

3/31/66 Spmacpm

62-104401-815

REC- 93 62-104901-816

March 21, 1961

Mrs. Cyril F. Wray
430 South Knight Avenue
Park Ridge, Illinois

Dear Mrs. Wray:

I have received your letter of March 9, with enclosure, and appreciate the concern which prompted your communication.

Although I would like to be of service to you, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which you may find of value.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (4)
Expose of Soviet Espionage
Communist Target--Youth
One Nation's Response to Communism
Series from Christianity Today

NOTE: Bufiles contain no record identifiable with Mrs. Cyril (Alouise) F. Wray. Robert Welch, founder of the John Birch Society, an alleged anticommunist organization, has bitterly criticized former President Eisenhower and his Administration in the past.

(see next page)

AFH:pak (3)

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W.C. Sullivan
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Ingram
Gandy

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

62 MAR 28 1961

NOTE continued:

He once stated he felt a group having the appearance of a communist front would be effective in attracting true subversives. The newspaper clipping of Jack Mabley's column which she enclosed has been brought to the Bureau's attention in the past.

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Parsons
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Evans
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Mr. W. C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
Miss Gandy

Park Ridge, Illinois
March 9, 1961

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover

Dear Sir:

Enclosed is a copy of Jack Mabley's column of Jan. 30th which appeared in the Chicago Daily Newspaper.

After reading that article I was horrified to note that the John Birch Society was giving a program sponsored by the American Legion in Park Ridge.

I called my local F.B.I. office to ask if this was considered a Communist Front Organization and was told that they could reveal no information but I would have to write to the Attorney General's office.

In the first place my letter would probably get no further than the desk of some clerk in the office and the John Birch Society could be giving 50 talks while I was still finding out whether they were considered subversive.

I feel that if we are to fight communism we must be able to recognize it whatever its form and where can we get information on it if not the F.B.I. ?

As a private citizen I would like to do my part to defeat communism but I can't write to the Attorney General every time I want information so please tell me a quicker and more efficient method.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Cyril F. Wray

/s/(Mrs. C.F.) Alouise Wray
430 S. Knight Ave.
Park Ridge, Illinois

P.S. A similar article appears in the March 10th issue of Time.

REC-93 62-104401-816

COPY:hbb

ENCLOSURE

19 MAR 23 1961

The Wrong Way To Fight Reds

Birch Society Is Recruiting

BY JACK MABLEY

THE John Birch Society is going to Chicago area churches chambers of commerce and civic organizations, to recruit members.

"Come, join us in the fight against Communists," members plead.

Jack Mabley's Story

Inasmuch as 99.9999 per cent of us are anti-Communist, they obviously have something to sell. But the conscientious citizens asks, "Is this the best way to fight communism? What is the John Birch Society?"

Since I am asked this often, because I wrote two columns about it last July, I will tell what I know about the society.

Group Founded In Indianapolis

It was founded in Indianapolis in 1958 by a group of businessmen led by Robert Welch, a former candy manufacturer of Boston.

Welch, by his own words, is the absolute boss of the society, which was named after a U.S. Army captain murdered by Chinese Reds.

This organization must be run by a "hard-boiled, dictatorial and dynamic boss," says Welch, and he is it.

* * *

WELCH HAS written a privately printed book called "The Politician." It was circulated only among the top, trusted leaders of the John Birch Society.

It is impossible for an ordinary member to see a copy of the book, or even get acknowledgment that it exists. I have read it, and will vouch that it exists.

In the book, Welch calls Dwight D. Eisenhower a traitor and a Communist.

He says that John Foster Dulles and his brother, Allen, head of the Central Intelligence Agency, and Chief Justice Earl Warren and former defense secretary Neil McElroy and most of the leaders of the Eisenhower administration, are or were part of a Communist conspiracy to take over this nation.

Some Excerpts From the Book

This is from Welch's book:

"While I too think that Milton Eisenhower is a Communist, and has been for 30 years, this opinion is based largely on general circumstances of his conduct.

"But my firm belief that Dwight Eisenhower is a dedicated, conscious agent of the Communist conspiracy is based on an accumulation of detailed evidence so extensive and so palpable that it seems to put this conviction beyond any reasonable doubt."

He says of Mr. Eisenhower: ". . . there is only one possible word to describe his purpose and actions. That word is treason."

* * *

WE REPRINT these words only because they are totally idiotic and because people who are asked to follow Welch are not aware of what really is in his mind.

The Communist threat in this country is real enough. The country needs the energy and interest of every citizen who will work to counteract the Communist evil.

But the unbelievable irresponsibility espoused secretly by Welch can bring only scorn and harm to real anti-Communist work.

(Mabley is on WBBM nightly at 8.)

3/31/86 Springfield

62-104401-816

ENCLOSURE

Park Ridge, Illinois
March 9, 1961.

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Dear Sir:

MAR 13 1961

Enclosed is a copy of Jack Mabley's column of Jan. 30th which appeared in the Chicago Daily News paper.

After reading that article I was horrified to note that the John Birch Society was giving a program sponsored by the American Legion in Park Ridge.

I called my local F.B.I. office to ask if this was considered a Communist Front Organization and was told that they could reveal no information but I would have to write to the Attorney General's office.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 3/31/81 BY SP macmd

In the first place my letter would probably get

ENCLOSURE

no further than the desk of some clerk in the office and the John Birch Society could be giving so talks while I was still finding out whether they were considered subversive.

I feel that if we are to fight communism we must be able to recognize it whatever its form and where can we get information on it, if not the J.B.S.?

As a private citizen I would like to do my part to defeat communism but I can't write to the Attorney General every time I want information so please tell me a quicker and more efficient method.

Sincerely,

(Mrs. C.J.) Alonia Wray
430 S. Knight Ave.
Park Ridge
Illinois

P.S. a similar article appears in the March issue of Time.

REC'D DE LOACH
RECEIVED-DIRECTOR
FBI
FBI
MAR 15 5 53 PM '61
4 18 PM '61
13 DIRECTOR
3-13-61

REC-93 -817

March 22, 1961

EX-108

Miss [redacted]
[redacted]
Nashville 4, Tennessee

b6
b7C

Dear Miss [redacted]

I have received your letter of March 10 and appreciate the concern which prompted your communication.

Although I would like to be of service to you, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which you may find of value.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (4)
Expose of Soviet Espionage
Communist Target--Youth
One Nation's Response to Communism
Series from Christianity Today

b6
b7C

NOTE: Bufiles contain no record identifiable with [redacted]

(see NOTE next page)

AFH:lc (3)

Tolson
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Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

66 APR 3 1961

3/31/86

Letter to Miss [redacted] b6 b7C 3-21-61

NOTE continued:

Robert Welch, founder of the John Birch Society, an alleged anticommunist organization, has bitterly criticized former President Eisenhower and his Administration in the past. He once stated he felt a group having the appearance of a communist front would be effective in attracting true subversives.

b6
b7C

[redacted]
Nashville 4, Tennessee
March 10, 1961

Hon. J. Edgar Hoover, Director
The Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

For several years I have been deeply concerned with the growing menace of the Communist conspiracy both in America and abroad; so, several months ago I joined one of our local chapters of the John Birch Society. As I have studied communism rather extensively, I did not go into this movement in complete ignorance or without some investigation on my own. Some of the local leaders were known to me through work in other conservative groups; and some of the national leaders, including Mr. Welch, were known to me by reputation. Having read the Society's literature and having seen its films, I was convinced that this was the first citizens' organization which really showed much promise of being able to work effectively against the communist conspiracy.

EX-108 REC-93 62-104401-8117

Apparently, the Society is beginning to hurt the communists considering the proportions of the current smear campaign going on in the liberal press. Of course, all members are warned that this may occur; and when our morning paper (not noted for accuracy in reporting or any great antipathy to communists - only anti-communists) began a rather vitriolic campaign against us, I was not too disturbed. A rather alarming situation has been brought to my attention, however, which does concern me very much, and that is the statement in the March 10 issue of TIME MAGAZINE to the effect that John Birch members in Nashville, Tennessee, have launched a telephone campaign to tell people that their neighbors are communists! I believe this statement to be completely false as the first indication I, or any other member so far as I have been able to determine had of this was a statement in The Nashville Tennessean that such a thing would be despicable (which it certainly would). Shortly after that, the statement in TIME appeared. (It is my understanding that TIME's Nashville correspondent is connected with The Nashville Tennessean and that is probably where the story originated.) I am completely sure that if such an act were ever committed by a member of the John Birch Society in any chapter, that person would be put out of the Society immediately, and this smear campaign has not lessened my faith in either the Society or its leaders. For my own protection however, considering the lengths to which the other side will go, I would like to know now if there is any reason that you know of that would make it unwise for any patriotic American to belong to the John Birch Society. Under no circumstances would I want to do anything that might nullify what little effectiveness I might ever have in the fight against communism. If you can answer this query I shall be deeply grateful.

MAR 23 1961

God bless you and all the dedicated men and women who make up the F.B.I.

b6
b7C

[redacted]

CORRESPONDENCE

Springer

3/31/64

REC- 84 62 - 104401 - 88

March 21, 1961

Mr. [redacted]
[redacted]
Portsmouth, New Hampshire

b6
b7C

Dear Mr. [redacted]

Your letter of March 12, 1961, has been received, and your interest in writing is indeed appreciated.

While I would like to be of assistance with regard to your inquiry, the FBI, as strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government, does not furnish evaluations or comments relative to the character or integrity of any individual, organization or publication. I hope you will not infer in this connection either that our files do or do not contain data regarding the group you mentioned. I am enclosing some information on the general subject of communism which may be of interest to you, including a copy of a list of organizations which have been cited by the Attorney General pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

Sincerely yours,
J. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 4
MAR 21 1961
COMM-FBI

Enclosures (5)

(See next page for NOTE and ENCLOSURES.)

SAW:lc
(3)

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

56 MAR 29 1961

Letter to Mr. [redacted] b6 b7C

ENCLOSURES:
Communist Target - Youth
Expose of Soviet Espionage
Communist Menace: Red Goals and Christian Ideals
One Nation's Response to Communism
Attorney General's Subversive List
NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles. The John Birch Society, an allegedly anticommunist organization, was organized by Robert Welch. Welch has been critical of the Eisenhower Administration in the past. He once stated that he felt a group having an appearance of a communism front could be effective in attracting true subversives.

TRUE COPY

[redacted]

Portsmouth, N. H.
12 March 61

b6
b7C

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D C.

Dear Mr. Hoover,

Three of the activities of the "anti-communist" club called the John Birch Society are to brand past President Dwight Eisenhower and Milton Eisenhower communists and to impeach Supreme Court Justice Earl Warren.

It is of great interest to me, and several of my friends who are considering joining this club, to know if the Federal Bureau of Investigation approves of this society. I do hope it is possible to label this club as either communist inspired or anti-communist.

Would it also be possible to obtain the latest listings of organizations which for one reason or another have been declared subversive?

Thank you for your time.

Respectfully,

/s/ [redacted]

b6
b7C

REC- 84 62 — 104401888

MAR 23 1961

3/24/86

[redacted]

b6
b7C

Portsmouth, N.H.
12 March 61

Mr J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover,

Three of the activities of the "anti-communist" club called the John Birch Society are to brand past President Dwight Eisenhower and Milton Eisenhower communists and to impeach Supreme Court Justice Earl Warren.

It is of great interest to me, and several of my friends who are considering joining this club, to know if the Federal Bureau of Investigation approves of this society. I do hope it is possible to label this club as either communist inspired or anti-communist.

Would it also be possible to obtain the latest listings of organizations which for one reason or another have been declared subversive?

Thank you for your time.

Respectfully,

[redacted]

Mrs

nml
1-TC-3-17-61-pcc
ack 3-20-61
SAW/pcc

b6
b7C

[redacted]

CORRESPONDENCE

3/31/66 JPMacMke

EX-114

REC-98 62-104401-819

March 17, 1961

Mrs. [redacted]
[redacted]
Manhattan Beach, California

b6
b7C

Dear Mrs. [redacted]

Your letter of March 7, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subjects of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some material dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

3/31/86 Johnepke

Enclosures (5)
How to Fight Communism
Introduction March 1960 LEB and 17th National Convention CPUSA
Communist Party, USA
Expose of Soviet Espionage
Communist Target - Youth

(See next page for Bu Note.)

RWE:plt
(3)

Tolson
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Callahan
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DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

66 MAR 28 1961

NOTE: No record could be located in Bufiles identical with correspondent. Robert Welch, founder of the John Birch Society, an allegedly anti-communist organization, has criticized the Eisenhower Administration bitterly in the past. He once stated he felt a group having the appearance of a communist front would be effective in attracting true subversives.

The Cardinal Mindszenty Foundation has not been investigated by the Bureau and is to a certain extent affiliated with Dr. Schwarz and the Christian Anti-Communism Crusade in that they have in the past utilized some of the literature of this group.

TRUE COPY

[redacted]
Manhattan Beach, Calif.
March 7, 1961

b6
b7C

J. Edgar Hoover,
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Washington, District of Columbia,

Dear Mr. Hoover,

I am interested in joining an Anti-Communist group.

Could you evaluate the John Birch Society, Cardinal Mindszenty Group and the organization in which Dr. Schwartz is active?

A person has no way by which to properly judge these various groups.

Sincerely,

Mrs. [redacted]

b6
b7C

EX-114

REC- 96 62-104401-819

MAR 22 1961

1-TC-3-16-61 yee
ack 3-17-61 yee

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/31/81 BY Spinacmed

b6
b7C

[redacted]

Manhattan Beach, Calif.
March 7, 1961

J. Edgar Hoover,
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Washington, District of Columbia.

Dear Mr. Hoover.

I am interested in joining an anti-communist group.

Could you evaluate the John Birch Society, Cardinal Mindszenty Group and the organization in which Dr. Schwartz is active?

A person has no way by which to properly judge these various groups.

Sincerely,

Mrs [redacted]

b6
b7C

wml
1-TC-3-16-61 get
ack 3-17-61 RWF:pet

3/31/61 SPmacmya

CORRESPONDENCE

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10

UNITED STATES GOV

Memorandum

Tolson
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Trotter
W. C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

TO : Mr. DeLoach

DATE: 3-17-61

FROM : D. C. Morrell

SUBJECT: [redacted]

SOUTH PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

b6
b7C

A letter has been received from captioned individual in which he encloses a letter he wrote to the Editor of "Independent Star-News" of Pasadena. Mr. [redacted] letter to Lee M. Merriman is a lengthy report upholding Robert Welch and the John Birch Society. It would appear that the "Independent Star-News" has been critical of this Society. Mr. [redacted] reasons for writing the Director are to get the Director's judgment regarding the character and worth of Mr. Welch and to ask if Mr. Hoover thinks the sending of this letter would help the fight against communism.

In the letter to Merriman [redacted] states that copies have been forwarded to Mr. Welch and Mr. John Edgar Hoover and that he requested answers from each man. Since it is evident that [redacted] is trying to draw the Director into a local controversary between the Pasadena paper and the John Birch Society, it is believed that a brief perfunctory letter should be forwarded.

RECOMMENDATION:

(1) That the attached perfunctory letter be forwarded to Lewis.

Enclosure Sent 3-21-61

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/9/86 BY Spmcmle

SAW:jab
(2)

REC- 9

62-101401-820

MAR 23 1961

101

51 MAR 31 1961

CORRESPONDENCE

March 16, 1961

62-100-01-821

PERSONAL

REC-37

Mr. [redacted] b6 b7C

[redacted]

Princeton, New Jersey

Dear [redacted]

Your letter of March 8, 1961, with enclosure, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write to me is indeed appreciated.

I regret that I cannot help you in this instance because we do not have any information concerning the organization in question for public dissemination. As you know, we very carefully avoid evaluating or drawing conclusions as to the character or integrity of any individual, organization or publication. I am not unmindful of the problems some anti-communist organizations create, but as your friend pointed out, "Let us keep our balance in what we do."

I am sorry I could not help to the extent you wanted me to, but if I can be of service in some other way, please do not hesitate to call on me.

b6 b7C

Sincerely,

NOTE: Correspondent is on the Special Correspondents' List on a first name basis. Bufiles contain no derogatory information regarding [redacted] and we have had considerable prior cordial correspondence with him. The John Birch Society was organized by Robert Welch in December, 1958, at Indianapolis, Indiana. It is allegedly an anticommunist organization with branches in many parts of the country. Welch was quite critical of former President Eisenhower and his Administration. Welch has claimed that the organization might take on the appearance of a "front" in order to attract true subversives. Correspondent's enclosure was a page from the Santa Barbara News Press (California) issue of February 26, 1961, containing an editorial critical of the John Birch Society.

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CJH:njs (3)

[redacted]

b6
b7C

Princeton, N.J.

March 8, 1961

J. Edgar Hoover
Director, FBI
Washington, D.C.

Dear Edgar:

My friend, [redacted] now a resident of [redacted] California, has asked me to make some inquiries regarding the John Birch Society. He enclosed this tear sheet from the News-Press, February 26 (see columns 1 and 2.)

b6
b7C

Anything pertinent will be appreciated. The source will be kept confidential.

Faithfully yours,

[redacted]

Enc.

62-104401-821

REC-87

16

23

5 MAR 21 1961

ack 3/15/61
CJH/mjp

EX 104

ENCLOSURE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/31/86 BY SPM/mmr

CORRESPONDENCE

The News-Press Stand On John Birch Society

The editor and publisher of the News-Press is in his 85th year. His entire life has been spent in this community. His memory takes him back many years and his reading even further. He lived when conditions were rugged. When West was West and men were men. He lived during periods when if a man or a group of men openly by word of mouth, or the printed word, called our president, our vice president, our secretary of state, the president's brother, members of the Supreme Court, and others at the head of our government, traitors, they were made to answer. Such slanders often called for a visit from a courageous and irate group which brought with them a barrel of tar and a few feathers. And such instances were particularly likely to occur if the slanderer came from New England. He lived when men were considered cowards when they hid behind their women's skirts and clothed their identity through anonymity.

It is in the light of this background that the News-Press tells where it stands on the John Birch Society.

Santa Barbara News Press
California
2/26/61

3/31/61 - Sp Machine

62-104401-821

ENCLOSURE

Statement of Principles

We Recognize

That Communism's advance threatens democratic institutions throughout the world.

We Believe

That democratic institutions can be endangered as much by extremists of the right as by those of the left.

That Democracy can be strengthened only through open discussion of issues, in the spirit of the Constitution and Bill of Rights — that secret or semi-secret political organizations have no place in our society.

That our democratic institutions are sound enough to withstand the give and take of open political discussion and examination of all ideological beliefs.

That Democracy suffers when fear of Communism leads to irresponsible, unsubstantiated charges of treason or evil connivance against our political, religious, educational or cultural leaders.

That traitors should be dealt with by the courts, not by vigilante groups.

We Condemn

The adoption of totalitarian organization or tactics to fight the Communist danger, for as totalitarianism flourishes, Democracy dies.

The spreading of slanderous generalities, without basis in specific fact, to cast suspicion on the loyalty or character of citizens whose views differ from those of the majority.

LET US KEEP OUR BALANCE in what we do. Let us not, in the intensity of our convictions, nullify the rights of others to hold and voice their own beliefs.

AN EDITORIAL

During recent weeks, the News-Press has sought to enlighten its readers about a semi-secret organization called the John Birch Society.

We believe that the News-Press has performed a public service by bringing the activities of the society to the attention of the community. Hundreds of our readers have agreed. But a newspaper would be derelict in its duty if it did not express its opinion of the way the society is organized and the tactics it employs.

First, let there be no mistake about this: Communism must be opposed vigorously. Its gains throughout vast areas of the world are shocking. Every American must be alert for Red infiltration. But that does not lead logically to the conclusion that to fight Communism at home we must throw democratic principles and methods into the ashcan and adopt the techniques of the Communists themselves, as the John Birch leaders would have us do.

The News-Press condemns the destructive campaign of hate and vilification that the John Birch Society is waging against national leaders who deserve our respect and confidence.

How can anyone follow a leader absurd enough to call former President Eisenhower "a dedicated, conscious agent of the Communist conspiracy"? Those are the words of the national leader of the John Birch Society, Robert Welch, in a manuscript entitled "The Politician," of which photostatic copies are available.

The News-Press condemns the dictatorial, undemocratic structure of the society.

The News-Press condemns the tactics that have brought anonymous telephone calls of denunciation to Santa Barbarans in recent weeks from members of the John Birch Society or their sympathizers. Among victims of such cowardly diatribes have been educational leaders, including faculty members of the University of California at Santa Barbara, and even ministers of the Gospel.

The News-Press condemns the pressures on wealthy residents, who fear and abhor Communism, to contribute money to an organization whose leader has said that "for reasons you will understand, there can be no accounting of funds."

In the Blue Book, the society's "Bible," leader Welch said that the organization needed one million members. He also said that the dues are "whatever the member wants to make them, with a minimum of $24 per year for men and $12 for women."

One million members, divided equally between men and women, would bring him 18 million dollars a year. Quite a sum to play with without accountability!

The News-Press challenges members of the society to come into the open and admit membership. A local enrollment "in the hundreds" is claimed, but so far only a few of them

REC-9 62-111822

March 21, 1961

EX-101

Mr. [redacted]

[redacted]

b6
b7C

South Fort Mitchell, Kentucky

3/31/86 Spinnaeple

Dear Mr. [redacted]

I have received your letter of March 12, 1961, and I do appreciate the concern which prompted your communication.

While I would like to be of assistance to you regarding your inquiries, the FBI is strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government and does not furnish evaluations or comments concerning the character or integrity of any individual, publication or organization. I hope you will not infer from this either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the subjects which you mentioned.

In view of your interest, I am enclosing material containing suggestions on ways to combat the menace of communism which you may like to read.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 9
MAR 21 1961
COMM-FBI

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Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

Enclosures (5)
Communist Party, USA
What You Can Do To Fight Communism
Expose of Soviet Espionage
One Nation's Response to Communism
Communist Target--Youth

51 MAR 30 1961

NOTE: Enclosures contain no information identifiable with correspondent. The John Birch Society was established by Robert Welch of Belmont, Massachusetts and is allegedly an anti-communist organization. We have

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JWO'B:hmm (3)

MAR 21 A 12 PM '61
RECEIVED

[redacted]

SOUTH FT. MITCHELL, KY.

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Parsons
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Bishop
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Evans
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Mr. W.C.Sullivan
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
Miss Gandy

3/12/61

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
F. B. I.
Washington, D. C.

b6
b7C

Dear Sir.

Recently I attended a meeting on Communist subversion in the United States given at St. Elizabeth Hospital by a Brother [redacted] from Dayton University.

It was suggested that our group be addressed by a member of the John Birch Society of Mass. I am interested in doing what I can to combat subversive action.

I would like to know if this previously mentioned group is a bona fied anti-communist organization.

I would also like to know if the F. B. I. could suggest some other organizations that are dedicated in fighting Communism in this country.

101 XIH

62-104401-822

REC. 9

MAR 23 1961

MAR 15 1961

[redacted]
SOUTH FT. MITCHELL, KY.

The John Berch Society has gone on record claiming that Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjold is a Communist.

I am confused on this statment and would appreiciate any comment you might have regarding this claim..

b6
b7C

Respectfully,

[redacted]

3/31/84 Response

REC- 35 823

March 16, 1961

Mrs. [redacted]
[redacted]
Glendale 8, California

b6
b7C

Dear Mrs. [redacted]

Your letter of March 8, 1961, has been received, and your generous remarks regarding my book are sincerely appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Enclosed is material dealing with the general subject of communism, some of which contains suggestions as to what we Americans can do.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (5)

What You Can Do To Fight Communism
How To Beat Communism
One Nation's Response to Communism
Communist Target--Youth
Expose of Soviet Espionage

(See NOTE next page)

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Tele. Room
Ingram
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66 MAR 28 1961

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

RWE:elw (3)

NOTE: No record could be located in Bufiles identifiable with correspondent. The John Birch Society is allegedly an anticommunist organization; however, Robert Welch, its founder, has stated that the Society might take on the appearance of a "front" in order to attract true subversives. During the Eisenhower Administration, Welch criticized the President to the point of calling him a dupe of the communists.

Mrs. [redacted]
[redacted]
Glendale 8, California

March 8, 1961

J. E. Hoover, Director
C/O Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

b6
b7C

Dear Mr. Hoover,

As a mother of four, wife of a man who believes with the deepest conviction in the United States Constitution, and wanting to help my country in some way to unshackle itself from the Communist monster which is so surely leading us to ruin, I am writing to you for advice.

I have been approached to join the John Birch Society, which seems to be creating even more confusion in my already confused head. As strongly as I agree with Robert Welch in theory, I do not want to be guilty of "creating a monster" which could ultimately do as much harm to our free way of life as the monster to which the society has dedicated itself to destroy. This is where the advice to which I referred to comes in.

I have read your very good book "Master of Deceit", Fred C. Schwarz' "You Can Trust The Communists", "McCarthy and the Communists", "Report of American Bar Association, Special Committee on Communist Tactics, Strategy, and Objectives," "Why People Become Communists", and many other pamphlets, etc; all of which leads me to believe that something must be done, BUT WHAT? Any light which you might shed either for or against the John Birch Society will be greatly appreciated by me and my Family.

Very best regards,

[redacted]

b6
b7C

REC- 35

62-104401-823

MAR. 23 1961

EX-112

MAR 10

KM 401 - 824

March 21, 1961

Mr. [redacted]

[redacted]

Cleburne, Texas

b6
b7c

Dear Mr. [redacted]

3/31/80 Spmacmile

Your letter postmarked March 12, 1961, has been received, and I want to thank you for your kind expression of confidence in the work being done by the FBI.

Your desire to help combat communism is very much appreciated, and I am enclosing material currently available for general distribution by the FBI along such lines. We cannot furnish you any data on the specific meeting you mentioned.

In response to your inquiry, I am unable, as a matter of policy, to counsel you regarding your joining the group you named. In this connection, I must inform you also that the FBI does not issue clearances of any type. I am unable to answer the other question you raised, furthermore, since information in our files is confidential and available for official use only, due to regulations of the Department of Justice.

The pamphlet you forwarded has been brought to our attention on numerous occasions in the past, and you will note that it contains a statement to the effect that the procommunist records of the individuals named therein are documented in the files of certain Governmental investigating agencies. I want to assure you that neither the Cinema Educational Guild, Inc., nor its national director, Myron C. Fagan, has had access to data in our files in the preparation of their publications. Your enclosure is being returned.

Sincerely yours,
J. Edgar Hoover

Tolson
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Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

66 MAR 29 1961

Enclosures (5) (LISTED ON NEXT PAGE)
SEE NOTE NEXT PAGE

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

DCL:hmm (3)

NOTE: The John Birch Society is allegedly an anticommunist organization with branches over the various parts of the country. Our field offices have been alerted to watch its activities inasmuch as its head, Robert Welch, indicated at one time that he thought a group having the appearance of a front organization might be effective in attracting true subversives. Welch has, in the past, also attacked President Eisenhower and his Administration in his writings.

It has been necessary on several occasions to admonish Myron C. Fagan relative to his use of the names of the Director and the FBI in the furtherance of his publications. Correspondent's enclosure was a copy of the pamphlet entitled "The Reds are Back in Hollywood!!! Don't Patronize Reds!!!," well known to the Bureau.

Enclosures (5)
What You Can Do To Fight Communism
How to Beat Communism
Communist Target--Youth
Expose of Soviet Espionage
Correspondent's enclosure to incoming letter

UE COPY

Mar 12. 1961
[redacted]
Cleburne, Texas

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director of F. B. I.
Washington D. C.

b6
b7C

I want to thank you for your wonderful work you are doing to keep communism from taking over in the United States. You are the most respected man in the U. S. today. I enjoyed reading your article written in "Christianity Today" which was reprinted in the Congressional Record. Every preacher should read it.

I have recently become interested in preventing a communist take over here. I am an Air Force Reserve Captain with a Security Clearance and believe in the free entiprize system as well as the Democratic form of Government. I have become interested in the John Birch Society, which appears to be a truely patriotic organization. At the present time with it's present organization and goals would I jeprodize my Security Clearance by becoming associated with this group. I realize you cannot tell what the future holds for this organization. But I feel I must do something for my country in its hour of need.

Enclosed is a phamplet "Reds Are Back In Hollywood." What can you tell me of this? Also recently I asked my Congressman, Mr Olin E. Teague, if there was an organized effort to reeducate the American public along (over) Socialist & communist lines? He said he thought this is very possible. Can you tell me anything about this.

I realize these are difficult questions I have asked. Please keep writing to the American people. They will believe you when they believe no one else. I would be happy to have any type of material on communism that you could send me. I am particularily interested in meeting of the 6th Communist International and its aims for political warfare. This Meeting I believe occurred in 1934. Thank you again.

REC-17 62-104401-824

Respectfully yours,

/s/ [redacted]

MAR 23 1961

b6
b7C

EX-113

Ack 3-24-61 Dick Lamb

Referred to Lab 3-16-61

3/21/61 Spinacine

Mar 12, 1961

[redacted]

Cleburne, Texas

b6
b7C

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director Of F.B.I.
Washington D.C.

I Want To Thank You For Your Wonderful Work You Are Doing To keep Communism From Taking Over In The United States. You Are The Most Respected Man In The U.S. Today. I Enjoyed Reading Your Article Written In "Christianity Today" Which Was Reprinted In The Congressional Record. Every Preacher Should Read IT.

I Have Recently Become Interested In Preventing A Communist Take Over Here. I Am An Air Force Reserve Captain With A Security Clearance And Believe In The Free Entiprize System As Well As The Democratic Form Of Government. I Have Become Interested In The John Birch Society, Which Appears To Be A Truely Patriotic Organization. At The Present Time With It's Present Organization And Goals Would I Jeprodize My Security Clearance By Becoming Associated With This Group. I Realize You Cannot Tell What The Future Holds For This Organization. But I Feel I Must Do Something For My Country In Its Hour Of Need.

Enclosed Is A Phamplet "Reds Are Back In Hollywood." What Can You Tell Me Of This? Also Recently I Asked My Congressman, Mr Olin E. Teague, If There Was An Organized Effort To Reeducate The American Public Along (over)

CONFIDENCE

Socialist & Communist Line [redacted] Said He Thought This Is Very Possible. Can You Tell Me Anything About This.

I Realize These Are Difficult Questions I Have Asked. Please Keep Writing To The American People. They Will Believe You When They Believe No One Else. I Would Be Happy To Have Any Type Of Material On Communism That You Could Send Me. I Am Particularily Interested In Meeting Of The 6th Communist International And Its Aims For Political Warfare. This Meeting I Believe Occurred In 1934. Thank You Again.

Respectfully Yours,

[redacted]

b6
b7C

MAR 13 2 40 PM '61
REC'D CORR. & TOURS
FBI

[redacted]

Cleburne, Texas

b6
b7C

Air Mail

Mr J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau Of Investigation
Washington, D.C.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/31/86 Jon Maurice

March 21, 1961

REC- 87

62-111825

b6
b7C

EX 104

Mrs. [redacted]
[redacted]
Tempe, Arizona

[redacted]

Dear Mrs. [redacted]

Your letter postmarked March 10, 1961, has been received, and I appreciate the concern which prompted your communication.

In response to your inquiry, the House Committee on Un-American Activities has as one of its primary responsibilities the recommending of appropriate legislation regarding subversive activities to the United States Congress. I have always felt that this Committee makes a contribution in its public disclosure of the forces that menace America and its efforts represent the reason why the venom of the communists has been directed against it as well as against the FBI.

The article which you requested me to forward you is no longer available for distribution. I am, however, enclosing several items with respect to the general subject of communism which may be of interest to you.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

Enclosures (5)
Director's speech 10-18-60
God and Country or Communism
Communism: Bitter Enemy of Religion
Series From Christianity Today
One Nation's Response to Communism

(SEE NOTE NEXT PAGE)

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

62 MAR 30 1961

JWO'B:lc (3)

Mrs. [redacted] b6 b7C

NOTE: Mrs. [redacted] has corresponded before, our last outgoing to her was on 9-1-60 when she complimented "Communist Target--Youth." We have previously sent her Communist Illusion and Democratic Reality, 17th National Convention CP, USA, 3-60 LEB Introduction and Expose of Soviet Espionage. Bufiles contain no derogatory information concerning her.

MRS. [redacted]
TEMPE, ARIZONA

b6
b7C

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Parsons
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Evans
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Mr. W.C.Sullivan
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
Miss Gandy

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover,
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover;

I was lead to believe yesterday that you were opposed to the HCUA during a debate concerning the National Council of Churches of Christ held at the spring board meeting of the Episcopal Churchwomen of the Diocese of Arizona. I do not believe this is correct. I speak on communism and would like to have something to refute this impression when it arises again.

I would also like to obtain five copies of God and Chaos which I feel is a valuable statement concerning the Red menace within the religious denominations of our great land.

Thank you sir, for your devotion to our Republic.

Most sincerely,

[redacted]

b6
b7C

Mrs. [redacted]
John Birch Society
[redacted]

EXP. PROC.
MAR 14 1961

62-104451-825

REC-87

MAR 23 1961

EX 104

ack. 3-21-61

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/31/86 BY SP2 MacMurr

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
5010-104-01

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (62-104401) DATE: 3/23/61

FROM : SAC, DALLAS (100-10402)

SUBJECT: JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY
MISCELLANEOUS -
INFORMATION CONCERNING

Mrs. [redacted] Dallas, Texas, phone [redacted] advised on 3/13/61 she was recently invited to attend a movie and meeting dealing with the communist menace. She said the invitation was from Mrs. [redacted], Dallas.

b6
b7C

Mrs. [redacted] stated she and her daughter with a friend (an exchange student that resides with her) attended the movie which was entitled "Communism Across the Map (or Continent)", during the evening of 2/28/61 at the Highland Park Town Hall on Drexel Road. She said after the movie a [redacted] made a few remarks and she met several persons that attended the movie. She was invited to attend a meeting to be held at a later date and did express a desire to learn more of the communist threat. [redacted]

She said she and her husband attended the meeting on 3/13/61, being picked up at their home by a Mrs. [redacted] mother of [redacted] and taken to the meeting held at the residence of [redacted]

Mrs. [redacted] said they were admitted by a person who stayed at the door and appeared to be screening the persons present, the meeting was conducted in a militant manner and consisted of talks by persons present. She said that it was at that time she learned it was a meeting of the JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY. She and her husband met several persons and were furnished a book entitled "The Blue Book of the John Birch Society," by ROBERT WELCH. In addition they were furnished a book "Communist - Socialist Propaganda in American Schools," by VERNE P. KAUB, as well as numerous leaflets and pamphlets on various facts of communism and other matters including one soliciting recipients to direct letters to their high elected officials asking the impeachment of Justice EARL WARREN. Mrs. [redacted] stated she will retain the literature should it be needed.

b6
b7C

2 - Bureau (RM)
1 - Dallas
EEH:jeg
(3)

57 APR 5 1961

10 MAR 24 1961

Mrs. furnished the following as persons she met at the movie and/or meeting:

Mrs. (attended movie)
Dallas, Texas

(attended movie)
Dallas, Texas

b6
b7C

Mrs. to attend movie)
Dallas, Texas

Mrs. (attended movie and meeting)
Dallas, Texas

(meeting at home)
Dallas, Texas

showed movie)
(attended movie and meeting - mother of
Dallas, Texas.

b6
b7C

Mrs. further advised her son. and resides in a garage apartment at the residence of , Austin 5, Texas. She said her son, who is a has been hazed unmercifully, apparently because of his friendship and associations with a Negro student. She said the treatment accorded her son and have necessitated both of them moving from the campus and finding housing elsewhere.

This is being submitted to Bureau for information.

EX-106

REC 98 62-104401-827

March 23, 1961

Mr. [redacted]
[redacted]
Wichita 4, Kansas

b6
b7C

Dear Mr. [redacted]

Your letter of March 18, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (5)
(listed next page)

JMM:efr*
(3)

see NOTE next page

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

62 MAR 30 1961

MAR 23 1 46 PM '61

Enclosures
The Communists Are After Our Minds
How To Fight Communism
Communist Party, USA
Expose of Soviet Espionage
One Nation's Response to Communism

NOTE: Bufiles contain no record identifiable with correspondent. Robert Welch, founder of the John Birch Society, an allegedly anticommunist organization, has criticized the Eisenhower Administration bitterly in the past. He once stated he felt a group having the appearance of a communist front would be effective in attracting true subversives.

March 18, 1961

F. B. I.
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen,

A recent article in Time; issue dated March 10, 1961, page 21, titled " The Americanists; aroused my interest to write your department seeking facts about the John Birch Society, as your department knows them. Is this Society good or not good for America? Is this Society safe or not safe for America? I am seeking a true evaluation of this Society in order to be a better informed citizen and your cooperation in this matter will be most appreciated. I am not and never have been a member of either the John Birch Society or the Communist Party.

b6
b7C

Sincerely,

[redacted]

Wichita, Kansas (4)

REC 98 62-104401-827

17 MAR 24 1961

EX-108

CORRESPONDENCE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/31/86 Spmacmle

REC- 22 62-[illegible] -828

March 21, 1961

PERSONAL

Mr. [redacted]

[redacted]

Johnson City, Tennessee

b6
b7C

Dear Mr. [redacted]

3/31/86 Spinnaemer

I have received your letter of March 13, 1961, and I do appreciate the concern which prompted your communication.

With respect to your inquiry, I have not endorsed the organization to which you refer. The FBI is strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government and does not furnish evaluations or comments concerning the character or integrity of any individual, publication or organization. I hope you will not infer from this either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the subject which you mentioned.

I firmly believe that it behooves all of us to make a concerted effort to gain a broad knowledge of the objectives and operations of the communist menace. A lack of understanding is dangerous in that it often results in the reprehensible and indiscriminate labeling as communists those who merely dissent or advocate unpopular or unorthodox views. Education is of great importance in this matter, for when fully aware of the aims of communism, we can all share in the opportunity to defeat it with the weapon it fears most--truth.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

NOTE: Bufiles contain no record of the correspondent in the locality of his residence. The article to which he refers appears on pages 21 and 22 of the March 10 issue of "Time Magazine" It is an analysis of the John Birch Society and comments concerning the extreme right-wing tendencies of this organization. The John Birch Society was founded in December, 1958, at Indianapolis, Indiana, by Robert Welch and has been engaged in allegedly anticommunist activities. The Bureau has conducted inquiry concerning it.

JWO'B:nss
(3)

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
V.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

56 MAR 30 1961

MAR 7 1 22 PM '61

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Parsons
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Bishop
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. Coyle
Mr. Evans
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Mr. W.C.Sullivan
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
Miss Gandy

[redacted]

Johnson City, Tennessee,
March 13, 1961.

b6
b7C

(Personal)

Honorable J. Edgar Hoover,
Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Department of Justice,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Hoover:

Your attention no doubt has been or will be called to the article in the March 10th issue of Time Magazine, (page 21), about the John Birch Society and Mr. Welch the founder thereof. I don't think there is anyone anywhere who could question my love for and my devotion to my country and my dislike for Communism in any form, but when a very close personal friend of mine approached me about the local John Birch Society movement, I expressed a dislike for any Vigalante Group who was so careful to conceal the names of it members! However, when I was assured that you personally had given your approval of the John Brich Society, I concluded I must be mistaken in my objection, and was feeling inclined towards membership until I read the article referred to above.

What I should like to know now is did you specifically endorse the John Birch Society, and, if so, does your endorsement still stand. I still would look with much disfavor on any organization who is reluctant to let its membership be known, unless, of course, as in this instance, the orgamization is endorsed by someone like you in whom I have complete confidence and who is in much better position than I to know how matters like this can be best handled.

I am sure you will comply with my request that you do not divulge to anyone outside your own organization the fact that I have written you, and that you consider this a matter strictly between you and me.

With assurances of my very highest regards for you, I remain,

b6
b7C

[redacted]

3/31/06

REC-2 62-101201-828

MAR 24 1961

EX-113

REC- 95 62-101451-829

March 22, 1961

Mrs. [redacted]

[redacted]

San Gabriel, California

b6
b7C

Dear Mrs. [redacted]

Your letter of March 14, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

Enclosures (5)
(listed next page)

DCL:cfr*
(3)

see NOTE next page

56 MAR 30 1961

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

Enclosures
What You Can Do To Fight Communism
How To Beat Communism
Director's Speech 10-18-60
Red Goals and Christian Ideals
One Nation's Response to Communism

NOTE: Bufiles contain no record identifiable with correspondent. Robert Welch, founder of the John Birch Society, an allegedly anticommunist organization, has criticized the Eisenhower Administration bitterly in the past. He once stated he felt a group having the appearance of a communist front would be effective in attracting true subversives.

TRUE COPY

March 14, 1961

Dear Mr. Hoover,

I am thinking of joining the John Birch Society. Please send me a letter with your approval that is is an Anti-Communist Organization.

Thank you

/s/ Mrs. [redacted]

[redacted]

San Gabriel, Calif.

[redacted]

b6
b7C

ok 3-22-61 DCK:gr

REC- 95 62-104401-829

10 MAR 24 1961

True copy 3-31-61 mae

EX-113

3/31/84 SPMacmre

March 14, 1961

Dear Mr. Hoover,

I am thinking of joining the John Birch Society. Please send me a letter with your approval that it is a Anti-Communist Organization.

Thank you

Mrs [redacted]

[redacted]

San Gabriel, Calif.

[redacted]

b6
b7C

CORRESPONDENCE

NMH

3/31/84 Sermaemke

62-104401-830

CHANGED TO

63-8161-X

FEB 6 1963

Va/Im

3/31/86

March 23, 1961

REC-9 [illegible]-831

Mr. [redacted]

[redacted]

Midland, Texas

b6
b7C

Dear Mr. [redacted]

3/31/86

Your letter of March 16, 1961, has been received, and your interest in writing is appreciated.

In response to your inquiry, I would like to advise that the FBI, as strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government, does not furnish evaluations or comments concerning the character or integrity of any individual, organization or publication. I hope you will not infer that our files do or do not contain data regarding the organization you mentioned.

I am enclosing some material on the general subject of communism which you may wish to have, together with a copy of a list of organizations which have been cited by the Attorney General pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

Sincerely yours,
J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (5)
AG List of Subversive Organizations
Communist Party, USA
Communist Target--Youth
17th National Convention & Intro. 3-60 LEB
Christianity Today Series

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles. Robert Welch, founder of the John Birch Society, an allegedly anticommunist organization has

(NOTE CONT. NEXT PAGE)

Tolson
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Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

56 MAR 30 1961

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐ SAW:jka (3)

NOTE (cont.)

criticized the Eisenhower Administration bitterly in the past. Welch once stated he felt a group having the appearance of a communist front might be effective in attracting true subversives.

Midland, Texas
March 16, 1961

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington D. C.

It would be appreciated if you would advise me if the John Birch Society of Belmont, Massachusetts, is on the FBI's list of subversive organization. I have been solicited for membership in this organization, but due to some of the unfavorable publicity would liketo receive your answer prior to affiliating with an establishment that would be contrary to the best interests of myself and the country.

Yours very turly,

[redacted]

b6
b7C

Midland, Texas

REC-9 62-101401-831

MAR 24 1961

RESPONSE

mmc
ack. 3-23-61
Sent. 1600

3/23/61

X 100

REC- 19 10440 / 832

March 23, 1961

Mrs. [redacted]
[redacted]
Midland, Texas

b6
b7C

Dear Mrs. [redacted]

Your letter postmarked March 14, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I have not sanctioned the organization which is the subject of your communication. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 9

Enclosures (5)
17th National Convention & 3-60 LEB Intro.
Director's speech of 10-18-60
Expose of Soviet Espionage
Communist Target--Youth
One Nation's Response To Communism

See NOTE next page.
RWE:pjh (3)

Tolson
Parsons
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Belmont
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DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

FBI

Mrs. [redacted] b6 b7C

NOTE: No record could be located in Bufiles identifiable with correspondent.

The John Birch Society is allegedly an anticommunist organization; however, Robert Welch, its founder, has stated that the Society might take on the appearance of a "front" in order to attract true subversives. During the Eisenhower Administration, Welch criticized the president to the point of calling him a dupe of the communists.

TRUE COPY

[redacted]
Midland, Texas
March 10, 1961

b6
b7C

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover,

Some friends of mine have been trying to interest me in joining the "John Birch Society." One of their selling points was "The society has the approval and backing of J. Edgar Hoover." After reading something of this organization in Time Magazine and talking with the local members, I found it difficult to believe you supported this type of thing. These members say Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, Henry Cabot Lodge and numerous other people in public life are so-called communists "dupes". The methods, as explained to me, of how this society operates are absolutely frightening. Please, Please let me know if you do give your support to this Society and if you do why.

I'll appreciate hearing from you.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs [redacted]

b6
b7C

REC. 1962-104401-832

MAR 24 1961

CORRESPONDENCE

b6
b7C

[redacted]

Midland, Texas
March 10, 1961

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover,

Some friends of mine have been trying to interest me in joining the "John Birch Society". One of their selling points was "The society has the approval and backing of J. Edgar Hoover." After reading something of this organization in Time Magazine and talking with the local members, I found it difficult to believe you supported this type of thing. These members say Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, Henry Cabot Lodge and numerous other people in public life are so-called communists "dupes". The methods, as explained to me, of how this society operates are absolutely frightening. Please, please let me know if you do give your

- mtd 3-23-61 RWE/pjb to 3-21-61 /jbs

CORRESPONDENCE

Approved
3/31/86

REC- 76

EX-114

62-104401-833

March 24, 1961

Mrs. [redacted]

[redacted]

Dickinson, Texas

b6
b7C

Dear Mrs. [redacted]

I have received your letter of March 16, 1961, and I appreciate the interest which prompted you to communicate with me on this occasion.

While I would like to be of assistance, the jurisdiction and responsibilities of the FBI do not extend to furnishing evaluations or comments concerning the character or integrity of any individual, publication or organization. I hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry. Consequently, it will not be possible for me to take the action you suggested.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

NOTE: Bufiles contain no record of the correspondent. Robert Welch, founder of the John Birch Society, an allegedly anticommunist organization, has criticized the Eisenhower Administration bitterly in the past. He once stated he felt a group having the appearance of a communist front would be effective in attracting true subversives.

Tolson
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W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

EBT
JMM:ncn
(3)

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

56 MAR 30 1961

TRUE COPY

[redacted] b6 b7C

Dickinson, Texas
March 16, 1961

J. Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Sir:

I have recently joined the John Birch Society and must, for my own peace of mind, know what you think of the organization and the vile article which appeared in Time magazine on March 10th.

Having read Masters of Deceit I am convinced that we must do something about the communist menace and feel this organization furnishes a program of positive anti-communist activity which I can follow. Since joining I have yet to witness anything that approaches the activities mentioned in the article and cannot help but believe that the editors of Time find it necessary to attempt to destroy an organization which approaches the awful truth and expose the communist conspiracy. Their motives certainly leave much to ponder.

If, in your opinion, The John Birch Society performs a patriotic service to our nation it seems to me you are in a position to set the people and the editors of Time straight. They find it rather difficult to refute your word!!

God bless you.

b6 b7C

Mrs. [redacted]

nmd
ack 3-24-61
JMM

1+e
3-23-61
nm

3/31/61 Spinnaccia

b6
b7C

[redacted]

Dickinson, Texas
March 16, 1961

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Parsons
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Evans
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Mr. W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
Miss Gandy

J. Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/31/86 BY SP2 [illegible]

Dear Sir:

I have recently joined the John Birch Society and must, for my own peace of mind, know what you think of the organization and the vile article which appeared in Time magazine on March 10th.

Having read Masters of Deceit I am convinced that we must do something about the communist menace and feel this organization furnishes a program of positive anti-communist activity which I can follow. Since joining I have yet to witness anything that approaches the activities mentioned in the article and cannot help but believe that the editors of Time find it necessary to attempt to destroy an organization which approaches the awful truth and expose the communist conspiracy. Their motives certainly leave much to ponder.

EX-114

REC-76 62-104401-833

If, in your opinion, The John Birch Society performs a patriotic service to our nation it seems to me

35

24

23 MAR 21 1961

1 tc
3-23-61
mcr

3-24-61
JMM

MAR 21 1961

CORRESPONDENCE

REC-19 62-111111-834

EX-108

March 22, 1961

Mrs. [redacted]
[redacted]
Odessa, Texas

b6
b7C

Dear Mrs. [redacted]

Your letter postmarked March 15, 1961, with enclosure, has been received, and I am glad to know you enjoyed the material previously sent you. I am also pleased to know of your interest in my book, "Masters of Deceit."

Although I would like to be of service, information in FBI files is confidential and available for official use only, due to regulations of the Department of Justice. I am also unable to comment concerning the group you named since the functions and responsibilities of the FBI, as a Federal investigative agency, do not extend to furnishing evaluations or drawing conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual.

The pamphlet you forwarded has been brought to our attention in the past, and you will note that it contains a statement to the effect that the procommunist records of the individuals named therein are documented in the files of certain Government investigating agencies. I can assure you that neither the Cinema Educational Guild, Inc., nor its national director, Myron C. Fagan, has had access to data in our files in the preparation of their publications. The pamphlet in question is being returned.

Although I am unable, as a matter of policy, to recommend any specific organization with the express aim of

NOTE AND ENCLOSURES NEXT PAGE

DCL:nss (3)

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
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Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
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Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

50 MAR 30 1961

b6
b7C

Mrs. [redacted]

combating communism, I am enclosing material available for general distribution by this Bureau which I hope will offer suggestions as to how you can take effective action in protecting our American way of life.

Sincerely yours,
J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (5)
Director's speech 10-18-60
What You Can Do To Fight Communism
How To Beat Communism
[redacted] USA & 3-60 LEB Introduction

b6
b7C

[redacted] directed to her Congressman, J. T. Rutherford, was referred to the Bureau by him in April, 1959 in which she inquired concerning two organizations. Mrs. [redacted] also sent a letter to the Bureau dated 4-21-59 making the same inquiries and Bulet 5-1-59 informed her that we could not help since we did not investigate the two organizations in question. (65-69946-144) no other pertinent references.

The John Birch Society is allegedly an anticommunist organization; however, Robert Welch, its founder, has stated that he thought organizing a group having the appearance of a communist "front" might be effective in attacking true subversives. He has bitterly criticized the Eisenhower Administration in his writings.

Correspondent's enclosure was a copy of the Cinema Educational Guild's pamphlet entitled "Don't Patronize Reds!!!" well known to the Bureau. The CEG and its national director, Myron C. Fagan, disseminated anticommunist, anti-Negro and anti-Semitic pamphlets. Fagan has been admonished relative to his misuse of the Director's name in the furtherance of his publications.

TRUE COPY

b6
b7C

[redacted]
Odessa, Texas
March 12, 1960

Dear Mr. Hoover,

Once again I am writing to you for information. Over a year ago I asked for your help and was immeasurably pleased with your prompt reply. Since that time, I have read your book Masters of Deceit plus many others.

Now I am on the verge of joining a group called the John Birch Society. In your opinion, is this group truly an anti-communist group? If you are unable to express your opinion, could you please refer me to another reliable--Non-liberal (if that is possible) source. I am also enclosing a pamplet I have and would like to know about the reliability of this also.

In my zeal to join an "Americanism" group, I should hate to join the wrong thing.

My own Congressman has already proven thru his recent voting records that he is not interested in the thoughts of his constituents, consequently I know of no one else to write to in regard to this matter.

Thank you very much

b6
b7C

Sincerely yours.

/s/ Mrs. [redacted]

True copy 3-31-61 [illegible]
ack. 3-22-61
DCL:[illegible]

3/31/[illegible]

b6
b7C

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March 12, 1964

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ack 3-22-64
DLE, mc

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Regard to this matter.
Thank you very much
Sincerely yours,
Mrs [redacted]

b6
b7C

REC-87 62-116101-835

March 22, 1961

Mr. [redacted]
Box [redacted]
Canadian, Texas

b6
b7c

Dear Mr. [redacted]

3/24/96 Spinachnet

Your letter dated March 13, 1961, with enclosure, has been received in Mr. Hoover's absence from Washington. Please be assured your communication will be brought to his attention upon his return.

In view of your interest, I am enclosing material available for general distribution by the FBI on the subject of communism.

Sincerely yours,

[redacted]

Helen W. Gandy
Secretary

Enclosures (4)
Expose of Soviet Espionage
Communist Target--Youth
Introduction 3/60 LEB & 17th Natl Convention CP, USA
Series from Christianity Today

NOTE: It is to be noted that correspondent does not specifically ask our opinion of the John Birch Society, and the cutting from "The Canadian Record, weekly newspaper published in Canadian, Texas, contains an attack on the Joh Birch Society. No record of this newspaper in Bufiles, and no prior correspo dence has been had with its staff. The John Birch Society is allegedly an anti-communist organization; however, Robert Welch, its founder, has stated that the Society might take on the appearance of a "front" in order to attract true subversives. During the Eisenhower Administration, Welch criticized the President to the point of calling him a dupe of the communists.

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

57 APR 4 1961

DGL:mcr
(4)

TRUE COPY

b6
b7C

3 - 13 - 1961

Canadain Tex Box [redacted]
J Edgar Hoover F.B.I.
Inclosed Is part of Home Town News Paper regarding The John Birch Society of which I am sure you know about.

I am very much confused about this article also the Societys bearing the turkey track insigna

It seem to me thus should be something done about these orginasition opely adocating the overthrow of our form of Goverment

I think It is time for Someting to be done.

Our Goverment has got to get tough to Stop this comunist novement I Sincerly beliave we need a firing line for People like John Birch

we need to repeal the 5th amendent we need some C in Goverment who will shoot those who betray our Govement. These Jail sentences ant wort a dam

Hot lead will stop People from Publicly advocating overthrow of our Goverment

What do think Mr Hoover

62-104401-835

REC- 87

Your very truly

EX 104

10 MAR 23 1961

ENCLOSURE ATTACHED

176

ENCLOSURE

/s/ [redacted]

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1-TC-pub
3-21-61

3/31/86

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3-13-1961

Canadian Ill Box [redacted]

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/ENCLOSURE

CORRESPONDENCE

[illegible]

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got tough to Stop this
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aint wort a Dam
That left will Stop People
from Publicly advocating
overthrow of our Goverment
what do think Mr Hoover
Your Very truly

b6
b7C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/31/86 Spinnaemie

Little League plans made

—See story on page 17

State President of the B&PW Clubs is Mrs. Ruth Fox of Dallas, who will present the charter to the Canadian club on Saturday night.

—Story on page 8

Rotarians slate pancake supper tomorrow night

—Story on page 12

A special report

The John Birch Society

An American Dictatorship

See Pages 2 and 3

The Canadian RECORD

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY AFTERNOON

VOLUME 72 — NUMBER 10 | CANADIAN, TEXAS, THURSDAY, MARCH 9, 1961 | TEN CENTS A COPY

City sets budget hearing

—See story on page 16

page one must

The Rainbow Girls are having a bake sale Saturday at Johnson's Supermarket and Bestway Market. Home-made pies and cakes will be sold. Proceeds will go to send some of the girls to the Texas Grand Assembly in June.

The Order of Eastern Star will have a Friendship night Tuesday, March 14 at the W. C.T.U. Building at 7:30. Those attending are asked to bring a salad.

New arrival out-of-town: A son, Jeffery Allen, born March 5th and weighing 6 lb. 14 oz. to Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Smith of 626 Willow Lane, Eagle Lake, Texas. Proud grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Jim Smith of Canadian.

The B&PW realized $73.51 from their rummage sale last Saturday. The money will be sent to the Texas Rehabilitation Center at Gonzales.

In Hemphill County hospital today: Mrs. Frank Shaller, Mrs. Frank Eyum, Vick Helton, Mrs. Joe Immel, Mrs. Vernon Shonbrock of Higgins, Robert Moreland and Julius Born. Dismissed during the week: Mrs. Larry Bailey and baby boy (March 2), Bill Meador and Mrs. George Hand (March 4), Charley Galliton (March 7), Sidney McKinney of Amarillo and Mrs. J. O. Sims of Mobeetie (March 8).

Johnny Schaef has Grand Champ barrow at Top o' Texas Show

—See story on page 12

Otis Riley enters race for Mayor

—Story on page 12

Wildcat track team will enter Gruver meet Saturday

—See story on page 17

High school open house 7:30 tonite

Donegals are blooming

Carl Williams, general chairman of the 1961 St. Patrick's Day celebration at Shamrock, checks the program of last year's celebration and works on details of the forthcoming Irish Festival slated for March 17 at Shamrock. Shamrock boosters were in Canadian Tuesday morning to advertise the celebration.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3-31-96 BY SP/mcrp
62-104401-835

The John Birch Society: a threat to America?

By BEN R. EZZELL
Editor of The Record

WHAT is the John Birch Society? A number of people have asked that question since we made our first casual mention of the name in these columns two weeks ago.

It's possible . . . even probable . . . that you've never heard of it before. It's also possible . . . and probable . . . that you're going to hear a great deal of it before you're through.

It is . . . according to its founder and absolute ruler, a wealthy New England manufacturer named Robert H. W. Welch . . . an arch enemy of International Communism and our only hope of defeating Communist domination of the United States.

Its avowed goals, as set forth by its leader, are to achieve "less government, more individual responsibility, and a better world."

That's a program which most of you, if you're average patriotic Americans, can agree with wholeheartedly.

But the methods by which Welch, through the John Birch Society, proposes to achieve these goals will . . . if you're an average patriotic American . . . raise the hair on your head.

He proposes, in essence, to establish an American dictatorship . . . with Robert H. W. Welch as its head.

And he may do it.

A few nights ago in a neighboring city, by special invitation, I saw and heard the founder of the John Birch Society deliver a two-hour address in which he outlined the threat of Communist domination in America and his plans to defeat it. This was in the form of a film which is shown to all prospective members of the John Birch Society as the first step in their assimilation.

In it, Welch first reviews the undeniable progress of Communist conquest around the world . . . then presents his program for containing it.

His premise is simple: The Communists, he declares, are already two-thirds of the way along in their master plan for world domination. They have, Welch declares, already taken control of the government of the United States. This being true, the only thing left for patriotic Americans to do is to become subversive, go underground, and undermine the government.

To do this, Welch continues, we must have an organization . . . and a leader. "We have the organization," he declares, indicating the John Birch Society, "and I am the leader."

Anticipating any doubts, Welch quickly admits that he may not represent a free choice. "I may not be the person you would have chosen," he tells his audience. "I may not even be the person I would have chosen. But I am the only person who is available, and my way is the only way. There is no other choice."

Having established himself as the leader of the crusade, Welch then makes it clear to prospective John Birch Society members that he will exact absolute loyalty and unquestioning obedience.

By his own estimate, a Communist-fighting organization like the John Birch Society needs "a hard-boiled, dictatorial and dynamic boss." Welch obviously thinks he is it. He has all the qualifications for dictatorship. He is tough, able, persuasive, dynamic . . . and fanatic.

Welch, in fact, sees nothing wrong with dictatorship. He admires dictators. "The only non-Commun-

Communist vs. Fascist?

IN THIS issue of The Record, we are devoting an exceptional amount of space to a report on the John Birch Society . . . a secret, political organization which is beginning to be heard from around the country.

We do this in the belief that an organization which has successfully kept itself in the dark for most of the time since it was organized more than three years ago should have the benefit of some light.

We think the John Birch Society needs a great deal of light shed upon it, because it appears to have some very dark corners indeed.

It advocates a policy which, if successfully carried out, could result in the total destruction of the American government as we know it, and of American liberties as we enjoy them.

While we agree, like most Americans, with its avowed purpose of defeating Communism in America . . . we disagree, wholeheartedly, with the methods by which it proposes to accomplish this end.

We realize that, by this statement, we brand ourselves, in the eyes of John Birch Society members, as pro-Communist. So be it. They may think so, but they had better not say so.

The founder and dictatorial leader of the John Birch Society declares that Americans must choose between domination by Communists or the leadership and government of the John Birch Society. We do not believe that this is so. If it is, we see nothing much to choose. A dictatorship of the Communist left can be no worse than dictatorship of the Fascist right. In either event, freedom for the individual would no longer exist.

But we still believe that there is strength in a free society . . . if the members of that society remain alert, keep themselves informed, and are not stampeded.

The John Birch Society aims to create a stampede. If it succeeds, by generating such fear of the Communist left that we, as a nation, are stampeded to the Fascist right, then we may yet see the creation of the American dictatorship which the John Birchers are told is necessary to the defeat of Communism.

Don't sell them short. They are headed by a man who means business.

And don't join them . . . if you place any value on your own freedom.

How long is too long?

THE RIDICULOUS appearance of a special election ballot with more than seventy candidates for a single office is almost certain to bring cries from the outraged public that "there ought to be a law . . ."

And this sort of irresponsible mis-use of the privilege of the ballot is the kind of thing that could easily inspire lawmakers to give us "a law" to prevent repetition of such a thing.

We hope they'll think better of it, however.

Too often, in cases like this, a law which is hastily enacted creates worse evils than it cures.

It should not be made an insurmountable task for a qualified citizen to get his name on a ballot as a candidate for a public office . . . even for such an important office as United States Senator from Texas. It would be easy, by sky-rocketing the filing fee, to freeze out most of the would-be candidates who have filed in this freak election . . . and over-eager legislators could probably think of more formidable gimmicks to discourage the hot potato.

But isn't it better to let the sensation-seekers and self-advertisers clutter up the ballot occasionally, rather than create a barrier which might prevent one good citizen from someday offering his services to the public?

Somewhere in the multitude of three score and ten . . . or is it twelve? . . . candidates on the special ballot, for that matter, there just might be a man better qualified for this U. S. Senate post than the half-dozen "serious" candidates.

That wouldn't require too great a stretch of the imagination, now would it?

THE CANADIAN RECORD
Canadian (Hemphill County) Texas
BEN EZZELL ..... Editor
NANCY EZZELL .... Editor of Woman's Pages
TED ROGERS ..... Foreman

Entered as second class matter December 20, 1945, at the Postoffice at Canadian, Texas, under the Act of March 3, 1879. Published each Thursday afternoon at Canadian, Texas, by Ben R. and Nancy M. Ezzell.

Spur of the Moment

Governor Price Daniel and Speaker James Turman, are both learning some political lessons which both of them should have known long before.

Turman rode rough-shod over nearly half of the Legislature's House of Representatives in January after he had won a squeaker of a race to be elected Speaker. Unwisely retaliating against all those who had voted against him, Turman appointed all his supporters to choice committees . . . and left the rest of the House in the cold. The result was predictable: Turman has made himself so many enemies that he can't muster a working majority to handle a legislative program.

The Governor, for his part, managed to alienate almost the entire Legislature by attempting to force through his own tax proposals . . . including the highly unpopular payroll tax . . . while brushing aside all alternate plans offered by members of the Legislature. The result: the assembled Legislators have ploughed him under.

We think it's nice for Governor Daniel and Speaker Turman to learn through doing . . . but it's too bad that the people of Texas have to get the bill for their kindergarten exercises.

* * * *

It's amazing what a bunch of bureaucrats can come up with, comments Editor Jim Gillentine in The Hereford Brand . . . if you give them enough red tape.

inklings

"ISN'T it amazing," observes the Second Street Philosopher, "how many people long to live forever . . . but can't amuse themselves on a rainy evening?"

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Jewelled Pill Boxes, extra fine gift, reg. $1.00 ..... 79c
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HAND PAINTED POWDER DISPENSER, reg. $2.00, $1.58
HAND PAINTED WASTE BASKETS, reg. $5.50 ... $3.98
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HAND PAINTED SOAP HOLDER, reg. $1.25 ..... 88c
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HAND PAINTED COSMETIC TRAY, reg. $4.50 ... $3.48

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Will Dictatorship be answer to US Reds?

John Birch founder thinks it's only answer!

ist governments left in the world today," he declares in the filmed speech, "are a handful of small nations . . ." and he mentions, admiringly, the government of the Dominican Republic under dictator Trujillo, and that of Nicaragua under Somoza, to name a couple.

He wastes no admiration on democracies, however. "Democracy," says the leader of the John Birch Society, "is merely a descriptive phrase, a weapon of demagoguery, and a perennial fraud."

The John Birch Society is not, in any sense, democratic. "Direction will come from the top," Welch tells his prospective converts. There is to be no arguing with his decisions, and no debate.

"We have no time for useless parliamentary procedures," he declares.

"We are going to cut through the red tape and parliamentary briar patches and roadblocks of confused purpose with direct authority at every turn. The men who join the John Birch Society . . . are going to be doing so primarily because they believe in me and what I am doing and are willing to accept my leadership anyway. We are going to use that loyalty, like every other resource, to the fullest possible advantage."

In event any rugged individualists crop up in the John Birch membership, Welch says provision has been made to take care of them. Presumably he means to cashier them . . . not liquidate them.

"We are not going to have factions developing on the two-sides-to-every-question theme," Welch declares.

* * * *

Who is this man who is making a serious bid to become an American dictator?

Robert H. W. Welch is a prominent Boston business man, a former vice-president of the National Association of Manufacturers and for seven years a member of the NAM board of directors. He was born in North Carolina, graduated from the University of North Carolina, attended the U. S. Naval Academy for two years, and graduated from Harvard Law School. At 60 years of age, he has retired from business (candy manufacturing) to devote his whole time to the John Birch Society and his bid for power.

And by the very audacity of his approach . . . his demand that loyal Americans follow his orders implicitly, and give of their time and their money to bring about the destruction of the United States and create, in its place, a dictatorship to be headed by Robert Welch . . . he might succeed.

He has succeeded, certainly, in attracting thousands of followers all over the nation. The society membership lists are secret . . . but there are indications that The John Birch Society may have 100,000 members or more. Welch's initial goal was one million members. Since he launched the Society at Indianapolis on December 9, 1958, he has scaled down that requirement . . . and now thinks he can accomplish his goals with a much smaller membership.

"We have found out," he told a Boston Herald reporter last summer, "that what we can accomplish through small chapters is immensely greater than we thought."

* * * *

There is evidence, in this area at least, that these "small chapters" are beginning to flex their muscles . . . perhaps an indication that the organizational period is about over and the Society is ready for real action.

A nationwide example is the campaign to impeach Chief Justice Earl Warren . . . a man who, Welch asserts outright, is an avowed Communist. The anti-Warren campaign originated with the John Birch Society, and is being actively encouraged by it, according to members . . . although it has been taken up and is being abetted by other anti-Communist action groups, such as the Committee for Individual Freedom. This Committee, which is active in Canadian, may not be affiliated with the John Birch Society, but is obviously under its influence.

More immediate to the Panhandle area is the pressure campaign being waged by John Birch Society members on ministers of certain prominent Protestant churches in Amarillo and Pampa . . . a campaign which has some aspects of Ku Klux Klan operations of the past. In view of Welch's insistence on "control from the top," it is almost certain that these localized pressures are being carried on at the great man's direction.

John Birch Society chapters (probably several in each instance) are active both in Pampa and Amarillo.

There is, apparently, no John Birch Society chapter in Canadian as yet . . . though there are John Birch Society members here and the organization has been discussed locally.

That some church groups would be targets of the Society was indicated by Welch in his filmed speech. "Some Protestant preachers," he declared, "actually use their pulpits to preach outright Communism."

Schools will be a prime target, too. "We're doing a lot of work on school texts," Welch told a Boston Herald interviewer. "Most of them are loaded and there aren't any decent substitutes."

* * * *

How does the John Birch Society spot Communists? Welch has a pat answer for that one, too. According to his standards, anyone who opposes the John Birch Society is apt to be a Communist, or at best a fellow-traveller.

It was Welch's extreme sensitivity to Communism in high officials . . . taints unsuspected by other innocent by-standers . . . that brought his Society the first, and only, major publicity which it has received up to now.

Welch reportedly authored and privately printed a book, "The Politicians," which he distributed only to top-level John Birchers. In it he devotes all of its 302 pages to "proving" that Dwight Eisenhower and many members of his administration are "conscious, dedicated Communists."

Chicago Daily News writer Jack Mabley "exposed" the book last July 25, after a copy of it, which he says "was intended only for secret distribution to the leaders of the society," fell into his hands.

Mabley quoted Welch's book as accusing President Eisenhower of treason, and accusing most of his aides as being part of the Communist conspiracy to take over the nation. This apparently is the basis of Welch's assertion that the present United States government is already Communist, and therefore John Birchers must "go underground" and undermine the government. In his filmed speech, Welch labels John Kennedy as "communist" although Kennedy was, at the time, not yet President.

After Mabley's column appeared, the Milwaukee Journal picked up the story and this publication was followed a few weeks later (in August of last year) by a comprehensive three-part series in the Boston Herald in which Stanley Eames interviewed Welch himself.

* * * *

There the story dropped, apparently.

A search of the periodical indexes for several years back reveals no mention of the John Birch Society in any American magazine or periodical. The John Birch Society has effectively stayed out of the limelight.

The Society has its own magazine, however . . . a magazine entitled "American Opinion," written and edited by Welch and distributed monthly from his Belmont, Massachusetts headquarters. A "John Birch Bulletin" is also distributed monthly to John Birch chapters . . . and it is through the bulletin that Society activities are directed.

Welch works through an organization of "coordinators" who organize chapters with the help of movies of Welch delivering his marathon speeches . . . one of which reportedly lasts six hours with a coffee break.

He told Boston interviewers that his organization is weakest in New England . . . strongest in the midwest, and particularly strong in Tennessee, Texas and Southern California.

The Amarillo Daily News last August 14 identified C. O. Mann of Midland as "a regional coordinator for the John Birch Society." Mann was in Amarillo to form a chapter, according to the newspaper.

Highly active in the organizational work of the Society in this area is Brigadier General (retired) Jerry Lee, former commander of Amarillo Air Force Base, who says he is "devoting his life to the work."

One thing is certain: the John Birch Society isn't interested in recruiting riff-raff. It takes aim at the arch conservative who is eminently respectable, and has either a position of influence or wealth, or both.

There is one other requirement: the recruit must be prepared to give unquestioning allegiance, and absolute obedience, to the founder. As Welch warns its prospects, the society is run from the top down . . . the most efficient form of government.

If he succeeds in recruiting enough solid citizens with enough wealth and enough influence to carry out his will, the United States may get rid of the clumsy trappings of democracy and adopt a really efficient form of government . . . an absolute dictatorship, with Robert H. W. Welch at its head.

One thing can be sold of Mr. Welch. He is not an atheist. He believes in a Supreme Being. And he believes that He is it.

Who's John Birch?

THE John Birch for whom the John Birch Society is named was a missionary to China who became a captain in the U. S. Army during World War II and, while carrying out his mission to preach the Gospel, also gave aid to many downed American fliers, set up radio networks, supervised building of air fields, and in general supplied valuable intelligence to U. S. forces. According to the late General Claire Chennault, he was very good at it.

At the end of the war, John Birch was singled out from a party of Chinese and Americans and was shot and bayoneted by Chinese Communists.

His story was told in The Saturday Evening Post (issue of Jan. 22, 1955) under the caption: "The Top Secret Story of John Birch's Murder Was the Tip-off on China's Reds." It is also told in a book, "The John Birch Story," written by Robert Welch and distributed to all members of the John Birch Society.

A limited number of re-prints of this article will be made available, on request, from The Canadian Record. There will be no charge.

REC- 95

March 23, 1961

Mr. [redacted]
[redacted]
Wichita, Kansas

b6
b7C

Dear Mr. [redacted]

Your letter of March 15, 1961, has been received.

While I would like to be of assistance, the FBI is strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not furnish evaluations or comments relative to the character or integrity of any individual, organization or publication. I hope you will not infer in this connection either that our files do or do not contain data regarding the organization you mentioned.

In view of your interest, I am enclosing some material regarding the general subject of communism which you may like to read.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (5)
Communist Party, USA
Where do we stand today with communism
Communist Target--Youth
17th National Convention & Intro. 3-60 LEB
Series from Christianity Today

NOTE: Robert Welch, founder of the John Birch Society, an allegedly anticommunist organization has criticized the Eisenhower Administration

SAW:jka (3)

(NOTE CONT. NEXT PAGE)

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Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

50 MAR 29 1961

NOTE (cont.)

bitterly in the past. Welch once stated he felt a group having the appearance of a communist front might be effective in attracting true subversives. Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.

TRUE COPY

[redacted]
Wichita, Kans.
March 15, 1961

b6
b7C

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington D. C.

Dear Sirs:

In the recent issue of Time, March 10, 1961, there was an article concerning the John Birch Society and Wichita, Kansas was mentioned in this article.

The people of Wichita, with whom I have talked, seem to have varied opinions about this organization--whether it is pro-communistic or anti-communistic.

Could you please forward some information on this matter as it seems I am in the dark about it.

Being that my father, Mr. [redacted] Kans. of Belmont, Mass. has been a long time enemy of Bolshevikism and Communism, I am very much interested about such things.

Please let me hear about the John Birch Society at your earliest convenience.

b6
b7C

Thank you very much.

Sincerely -

/s/ [redacted]

REC- 95

62-104401-836

MAR 24 1961

EX-112

8-Dom Rec

3-23-61

3-22-61

3/31/86

[redacted]

b6
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Wichita, Kans.
March 15, 1961

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington D.C.

3/31/86

Dear Sirs:

In the recent issue of Time, March 10, 1961, there was an article concerning the John Birch Society and Wichita, Kansas was mentioned in this article.

The people of Wichita, with whom I have talked, seem to have varied opinions about this organization — whether it is pro-communistic or anti-communistic.

Could you please forward some information on this matter as it seems I am in the dark about it.

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Being that my father, Mr. [redacted] of Belmont, Mass. has been a long time enemy of Bolshevikism and Communism, I am very much

CORRESPONDENCE

acte. 3-23-61 [illegible] 16-3-27-61

interested about such things.

Please let me hear about the John Birch Society at your earliest convenience.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely -

b6
b7C

March 23, 1961

REC- 65 -837

Mr. [redacted]

[redacted]

Lubbock, Texas

b6
b7C

Dear Mr. [redacted]

I have received your letter of March 17, 1961, and your interest in writing is appreciated. Your favorable remarks concerning my administration of the FBI are encouraging.

In response to your inquiry, the FBI, being a Federal investigative agency, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any individual, publication or organization. I regret I am unable to help you in this regard and hope you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

The FBI does not maintain lists such as you mentioned; however, I am enclosing a copy of the list of organizations which have been cited by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450. In addition, the publication, "Guide to Subversive Organizations and Publications," which was prepared by the House Committee on Un-American Activities but is now out of print, may be located at your public library.

Enclosed also is material containing some of my recent observations and statements regarding the communist menace.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Tolson
Parsons
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Belmont
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Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
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Ingram
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Enclosures (5) Listed next page.

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See NOTE, next page.....

Letter to Mr. [redacted]

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Enclosures:
Attorney General list per Executive Order 10450
3-60 LEB Introduction & 17th National Convention, CPUSA
Director's speech, 10-18-60
What You Can Do To Fight Communism
Series from "Christianity Today"

NOTE: There is no information in Bufiles identifiable with correspondent. It is not possible to determine exactly what item [redacted] has in mind; however, it would appear he is referring to the Director's Law Enforcement Bulletin Introduction of 3-1-60. Robert Welch, founder of the John Birch Society, an allegedly anticommunist organization, has criticized the Eisenhower Administration bitterly in the past. He once stated he felt a group having the appearance of a communist front would be effective in attracting true subversives.

TELEPHONE [redacted]-0518

[redacted]
ATTORNEY AT LAW
LUBBOCK, TEXAS

1107 GREAT PLAINS BLDG.

b6
b7C

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Parsons
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. Evans
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Mr. W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
Miss Gandy

March 17, 1961

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I have heard some good reports on the activities of the John Birch Society. We are anti-communist, anti-socialist, anti-new deal, anti-United Nations, World Court, or any other outfit that is taking over, or seeking to take over the American way of life. I want to do what I can to preserve our freedom, but there are so many good sounding societies, groups and organizations that turn out to be communist fronts that I want to be sure that the John Birch Society is not just a Communist Front for something or other before I make any effort to join. Would you please let me know what you can about this society. I would also appreciate any material you have available listing Communists, Fellow Travelers, and the latest list of subversive organizations and individuals that you have available for public distribution.

I have also heard that you recently either made a speech or wrote an article pointing out some of the things the American people ought to know about the Communists and their plans for this country. If you have a copy of this available may I have one.

I will be very frank in saying that you head the only Department of our Government that I personally have any confidence in. I believe we can rely upon your Judgment with reference to the true nature of the Birch Society.

MAR 20 1961

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Yours truly,

[redacted]

REC-65 62-104401-837

AS/im

13 MAR 24 1960

CORRESPONDENCE

838

March 22, 1961

Mrs. [redacted]
[redacted]
Toms River, New Jersey

b6
b7C

Dear Mrs. [redacted]

3/31/86 SP1 Macm 12

Your letter of March 14, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

With regard to your other inquiry, as a matter of policy, I am unable to make any comment as the matter you mentioned is of concern to the Department of State. I hope you will understand my position. I am referring a copy of your letter to that agency. Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

Sincerely yours,
J. Edgar Hoover

Tolson
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W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

Enclosures (5)
Listed on next page.

See NOTE next page.

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MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

57 APR 3 1961

Enclosures
3-1-60 LEB Introduction & 17th National Convention
Expose of Soviet Espionage
Communist Target--Youth
Christianity Today Series
One Nation's Response To Communism

NOTE: No record could be located in Bufiles identifiable with correspondent. Robert Welch, founder of the John Birch Society, an allegedly anticommunist organization, has criticized the Eisenhower administration bitterly in the past. He once stated he felt a group having the appearance of a communist front would be effective in attracting true subversives.

[redacted]
Toms River, New Jersey
March 14, 1961

Hon. J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

b6
b7C

Recently I have learned of an organization known as the John Birch Society, an active, but possibly not effective anti-Communist group. If this group is what it claims to be, membership would be advantageous for all Americans. However, as a wife, mother, and [redacted] I do not wish to participate in any movement which could be detrimental to our country. Therefore, Would you please avail me of any information you might possess about the John Birch Society.

Also, could you please tell me if any action is being taken by our country to free American prisoners currently held by the Soviet?

[redacted]

62-104401-838

REC-46

7 MAR 27 1961

CORRESPONDENCE

nmd
ack 3/22/61
RWE/jsh/jpb

3/31/86

REC-94 62-104401-839

March 22, 1961

Mr. [redacted]
[redacted]
Commercial Printing and Letter
Service Company
1015 North Hawkins Street
Dallas 4, Texas

b6
b7C

Dear Mr. [redacted]

Your letter of March 13 has been received and the grave concern which you expressed regarding communism is understandable. Please accept my thanks for your generous remarks concerning my administration of the FBI.

While I would like to be of assistance to you regarding your inquiry, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the organization you mentioned in your communication.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

Sincerely yours,
J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (5)
What You Can Do To Fight Communism
Director's speech of 10-18-60
Communist Target--Youth
3-60 LEB Intro &17th Natnl
Series from Christianity today

NOTE: (SEE NEXT PAGE)

HHA:jms (3)

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

2 MAR 30 1961

Mr. [redacted] b6 b7C

NOTE: Nothing was located in Bufiles which was identifiable with correspondent. Robert Welch, founder of the John Birch Society, an allegedly anticommunist organization, has criticized the Eisenhower Administration in the past. He once stated he felt a group having the appearance of a communist front would be effective in attracking true subversives.

Commercial Printing and Letter Service Company
1015 NORTH HAWKINS STREET / DALLAS 4, TEXAS / RIVERSIDE 2-8167

SUCCESSFUL DIRECT MAIL ADVERTISING

[redacted] b6 b7C

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Harbons
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Evans
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Mr. W.C.Sullivan
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
Miss Gandy

March 13, 1961

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

First, let me take this opportunity to thank you for all the long years of patriotic service and self-sacrifice you have given to our country. I feel certain our country would not be as fine a place as it is today if we had not had the benefit of your leadership in the FBI.

I have a deep respect for you and for your knowledge of the activities of various organizations (patriotic and otherwise) over the country. This leads to my second reason for writing this letter.

I have been asked to join The John Birch Society. Since I know very little about this organization, I would appreciate your giving me your opinion of it and any information you have concerning its founder, Robert Welch.

I realize you and your staff are very busy, and I thank you in advance for taking the time to give me this information.

Sincerely yours,

[redacted] b6 b7C

62-104401-839

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MAR 24 1961

EX 101

ack 3-22-61 HHA:

CRIME RESEARCH

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 3/31/86 BY

REC-74 101

March 20, 1961

104-01 840

Mr. [redacted]

[redacted]

South Pasadena, California

b6
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3/31/86 Spinnaccine

Dear Mr. [redacted]

Your letter of March 13, 1961, with enclosure, has been received, and I want to thank you for your very kind comments.

While I would like to be of assistance to you, the FBI, as strictly an investigative agency of the Federal government, does not furnish evaluations or comments concerning the character or integrity of any individual, publication or organization. I cannot, of course, as the head of this Bureau, make any personal comments or evaluations in this regard. I hope you will not infer in this connection that our files do or do not contain data regarding the subject of your inquiry.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

b6
b7C

NOTE: See Morrell to DeLoach memo dated 3-17-61 captioned [redacted] South Pasadena, California." Bufiles reflect nothing derogatory on correspondent. He commended the Director on his speech before the American Bar Association and was sent a cordial note of thanks. [redacted] knows the Director occasionally makes speeches; therefore, his comment regarding the Director's taking a leave of absence is being intentionally ignored.

SAW:jab
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W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

51 MAR 29 1961

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Parsons
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. Delaach
Mr. Evans
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Mr. W.C.Sullivan
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
Miss Gandy

[redacted] b6 b7C

South Pasadena, California

13 March 1961

J. Edgar Hoover, Esq.
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Ninth and Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

After serious thought I have decided to ask you to read the enclosed copy of a letter which I have felt should be sent to the Editor of a Pasadena newspaper which has in the past few weeks attacked Robert Welch and The John Birch Society in a way which to me has been reprehensible. Please know that I fully understand that you cannot answer at length thousands of communications which must come to you. Indeed, there must be many you cannot answer at all. But I do hope you can advise me whether you think the sending of the letter can help the cause for which you have become our national symbol.

Before sending the letter I am submitting a copy of it to Mr. Welch to be sure that I will not ill-advisedly embarrass either him or the Society.

I trouble you in this way because of my profound admiration and respect for you and all that you stand for. I expressed this regard in a letter I wrote to you following your splendid talk at the convention of the American Bar Association in Los Angeles.

For many reasons I would deeply appreciate your giving me your judgment regarding the character, purposes and worth of Mr. Welch, The John Birch Society and their efforts to make effective the fight against Communism.

May I express my conviction, as one American citizen, that the time has come when the gravity of the struggle between the Communist Conspiracy and those men and women in the world who have considered themselves free is such that the highest interests of this country desperately need your personal voice in the mission of awakening the blind and confused and ignorant masses of our people. There is no other man whose voice could carry half the conviction or do half the good in this job of awakening

ENCLOSURE

62-104401-8

EX 101

REC-74

MAR 24 1961

MAR 14 1961

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and arousing the citizenry of this country that you could accomplish. Is it too much to suggest that you give thought to the obtaining of a leave of absence from your present responsibilities to devote yourself to addressing gatherings of persons throughout the country?

With my great respect and regard, I remain

Sincerely yours,

[redacted] b6 b7C

RWL:cg

[redacted]

South Pasadena, California

b6
b7C

Mr. [redacted]
[redacted]
Altadena, California

Dear Mr. [redacted]

3/31/86 Sp1macmre

This letter is purposely addressed to you at your home. It is, through you, addressed to Messrs. [redacted] the Independent Star-News, your Pasadena newspaper, of its attack upon Robert Welch and the policies and membership of The John Birch Society. You are [redacted] As such you conduct your work behind a newspaper organization and its power, editorial and otherwise, which you feel protects you personally from those outside. You do not act, ever, on equal terms with your fellow citizens. Therefore I, a citizen unknown to you, come to you at your residence, where, under the guise of editorial policy you, if addressed at your office, could ignore what I have to say.

b6
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1. I deplore and express my abhorrence of the conduct you three men have engaged in, designed to nullify the work of The John Birch Society a group of Americans and hold it, them and the founder of that group up to obloquy and scorn. The group you would destroy has as its goals accomplishments as high as man can conceive, in particular, to save the survival of this country as a free nation. It is significant to me that you have timed your efforts to destroy that work of that group to coincide with similar action by newspapers in Los Angeles and Sante Barbara.

2. You have deliberately sought, by creating false impressions, to poison your readers against Robert Welch, impugning his character and judgment by editorials and columns. The bases of this effort by you three men have been, according to what you have published, written declarations made by Mr. Welch more than two years ago and your disagreement with his judgment and views. It is noteworthy that there has been not one bit of evidence that you have considered or cared to know with fairness and exactitude the bases of Mr. Welch's views or judgment. There has been no indication that you know anything about the knowledge he has had in the past which has so often later confirmed his judgments. I do not know Mr. Welch personally, but I have read his magazine from the start of the predecessor of American Opinion. I profoundly respect his past dedication to learning about the Communist Conspiracy and the devotion of his entire life to the effort to awaken and lead those who care to work for the highest interests of this nation and to save it from Communist slavery.

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ENCLOSURE

3. This man and his tremendous effort have by you three men and your paper been treated with subtle and contemptible writing from the cowardly position of newspaper editors who wield a power of incalculable advantage over any individual citizen by reason of their power to pick and choose and time whatever appears. Although you have had The Blue Book of the Society, which reveals the man's character and sincerity and devotion to the best in human life you have written not one word of good about him.

4. You decry the ways and means his best judgment has advocated, effectively and successfully opposing this nation's deadly enemies. That is your right, if so you are disposed. But you would damn The John Birch Society and all its members which are not Mr. Welch, as some members have pointed out. You have deliberately and irresponsibly chosen to lead your readers to ignore the fact that Mr. Welch and the members of The John Birch Society are distinct considerations.

5. I believe your record is not one to be justifiably reconciled with a desire to serve the true interests of this country and its survival as a free nation, dedicated to the ideals that have moved Mr. Welch to act as he had done. You have been completely negative toward that action and have sought to destroy that effort, without the slightest visible effort to serve the nation's welfare or those purposes by any constructive contribution of your own.

6. If you three men honestly cared so to serve and feel Mr. Welch and the Society mistaken in their approach to the cause of opposing Communism, pursuing methods inimical to the interests of the United States and the cause of freedom and their survival you, three individuals, could have acted to set in motion means for the correction of bad judgment in a fair-minded, decent and constructive way. The course you chose was the antithesis of such a path. You have made a record of effort to destroy the one great hope that exists to avert disaster. You have offered nothing in its place. That record is one of conduct absolutely opposed to the preservation of this nation, for its purpose is to stop that great effort, to silence and remove from the scene that sole hope of awakening and leading into action the millions who, in default of such action, will be enslaved.

7. The conduct of you three men is conduct which incalculably weakens and jeopardizes the chances of resisting the onslaught of the Communist Conspiracy by fighting it with effect by whatever methods employed -- even those such men as you may approve. You know this. What you must also know is that such an effect directly assists and advances the cause of Communists in an incredibly appalling way. I therefore submit that such conduct betrays this nation and the cause of everything that is decent and noble and of spiritual value for which this country at its best has stood. Such result I believe to be as damaging, deadly and opposed to this country's best interests

as the results of any action by any traitor who has ever chosen or will ever choose to align himself with the Communists and play into their hands. I do not call you traitors or Communists. Whatever you are is determined not by name calling, but by the facts of what you do.

8. At this point it is time for you and all Americans to face the fact which I believe the most vital and important one of all to be recognized in this frightful struggle which is determining the issue of whether it shall be between life or death for the freedom of man. The time has arrived when Americans must recognize that labels are beside the point and only serve to confuse the issue. The only question that matters now is what serves to help this nation and freedom and what harms them and sets them back. Motives, and this includes yours, cannot count in the determination of that issue, however revealing of character they may be. Your actions and their results do. I submit that the recent action of you three men harms this nation and the cause of freedom in a way no less terrible and deadly than the action of any traitor or Communist agent. It is high time, and long past it, that the conduct of Americans be judged by the test of whether it helps the Communists or helps the United States. By that test must each American be judged as friend or foe, in deed and effect.

9. Let your position be tested, then, by the measure of your desire and willingness now to serve the cause of truth, of fairness, of true courage. You have sordidly attacked one man and those who, with him, would, to the utmost of their good faith, take action to fight Communism at this juncture which I am convinced is quite as desperate as Mr. Welch has made so plain. You have made this attack from a position of great inequality, from your editorial office, with the power of your newspaper's control of what appears in its pages. Have you three the character to stand up to those you have sought to condemn in the eyes of your readers as three individual citizens meeting other citizens on equal terms, as men stripped of your newspaper's power and insulation? Let us see.

10. I ask you three men to advise me whether you three, as individual men responsible and accountable for what has been done by your newspaper, will meet Mr. Welch -- or such man or men as he may designate -- on a public platform, to make your accusations and implications against him face to face and then allow him to answer you? Likewise, will you meet such leader or leaders of The John Birch Society to accuse them and allow them in like manner to rebut your charges? I put these questions in deadly earnest, for they can test your decency, your good faith, your personal courage.

11. I am sending a copy of this letter to Mr. Welch and Mr. J. Edgar Hoover. I shall advise both men of your answers, and I request answers from each of you. It is all to the good, all the better for the test of your characters, that I am a citizen unknown to you -- one American who feels about the danger that we are in exactly as does Mr. Welch.

12. As I write this letter I do not have any idea whether Mr. Welch or The John Birch Society will feel it sensible to draw the issues of the fairness and significance of your attack upon them by responding to a willingness on your part to accept my proposal -- if you advise me of that willingness. Take note of this fact, that I am not a member of the Society. I do not indicate any agreement or disagreement on my part with Mr. Welch's personal views, other than my full agreement with his appraisal of the Communist danger to this land of the operations of the Communist Conspiracy; nor do I here express approval or disapproval of his convictions regarding the only effective ways of fighting it successfully. That is in no sense material to the issue I have chosen to draw in this letter. I want you to understand, therefore, that I do not speak for any one but myself; this being so I can in no way that I can see embarrass Mr. Welch or The John Birch Society should their judgment consider a meeting such as I propose inadvisable. But by your response to my request, or your ignoring it, this letter can accomplish a good deal. I am mailing it to you by certified mail, with a return receipt requested, so there will be evidence of its receipt by you three men.

Yours very truly,

BWL:cg

REC-82 6 EX-101 10440-841

March 22, 1961

Mrs. [redacted]
[redacted]
Anaheim, California

b6
b7C

Dear Mrs. [redacted]

3/31/86 Spinnaker

I have received your letter of March 13, 1961, and the interest which has prompted you to communicate with me on this occasion is indeed appreciated.

While I would like to be of assistance, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

I can readily understand your deep concern over the grave threat posed by communism. It is my firm belief that a broad knowledge of the objectives and operations of the communist conspiracy is essential if Americans are to effectively resist its influence. I have always felt that private citizens, acting through their civic, labor, religious, educational and similar organizations, constitute one of our most effective weapons for overcoming the menace of the Communist Party. The initiative displayed by private citizens in acting to thwart the aims of the communists is a tribute to our American way of life.

Enclosed are several items setting forth my views on this subject which you might like to have.

Sincerely yours,
J. Edgar Hoover

Tolson
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Belmont
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W.C. Sullivan
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Enclosure: See next page.

51 MAR 29 1961

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

NOTE: Next page.

JMM:ncr (3)

Enclosures
The American Legion speech 10-18-60
Christianity Today series
Communist Target--Youth
Expose of Soviet Espionage
One Nation's Response to Communism

NOTE: Bufiles contain no record of correspondent. No attempt has been made to search Bufiles regarding the various individuals and organizations she has mentioned for the purpose of answering her communication. However, Robert Welch, founder of the John Birch Society, an allegedly anticommunist organization, has criticized the Eisenhower Administration bitterly in the past. He once stated he felt a group having the appearance of a communist front would be effective in attracting true subversives.

March 13, 1961

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Parsons
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Evans
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Mr. W.C.Sullivan
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
Miss Gandy

J. Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I have a decision to make and I know of no one else to whom I can ask. I'll try and make it brief.

We have had a lot of "communism" exposed in our schools. A lot of activities discovered around that is demoralizing and labled communism.(definitely Un-American). I've helped in getting petitions signed to try and recall a member from our School Board that belonged at one time to the A.Y.D., now the A.C.L.U. He had a meeting in his home with guest of honor, Frank Wilkinson. He 'Joel Dworman' had circulated literature against our House Committee. Publically admitted he believed along Wilkinsons same line etc. I participated as much as I could in exposing his and other A.C.L.U. activities. I can't understand why they are not on the subversive list.

This all lead to our laws that have been nullified by the Supreme Court that have hampered removing communists from our society. The "Slochower v. Bd. of Education" 1956 decision seems to have even taken away our rights to control who is running or teaching in our local schools. More than a dozen more decisions appear to me to have been a terrible blow to you (F.B.I.) and UnAmerican Activities Committees and local courts in bringing any kind of a control on subversion.

Now, I'll tell you my problem. In Feb. I listened to a speach(film) by Robert Welch of the John Birch Society - Read the Blue Book and made application to join the society. I have listened to such speakers as Cvetic, Skousen, Barns, Swartz, Strubel, the Millers and a local professor at an Anti-Communist class in Santa Ana College. It seemed to me, they advocated all the same ideas of what we can do to try and curb the communist conspiracy. The Los Angeles Times paper ran a series of articles this past week condemning the Birch Society and Mr. Welch to the most. The Editorial (by Otis Chandler) to finish it off, said "they will bring our institutions into question exactly as the Communists try to do" "They will sow distrust and aggravate disputes, and they will weaken the very strong case of conservatism" "Subversion, whether of the left or the right, is still subversion." Unquote.

As you probably have all their date (as per Blue Book of that Society) I won't go into more.

EX 101

REC- 62 62-104401-841

What I want to know, would I (in your opinion) be aiding the communist aggression in our U.S.A. in belonging to and working with this organization? What can I and other ordinary people do (workers & Homemakers) to try and keep communist propraganda from being taught our children in schools - plus other things that demoralize them such as sex, disbelief in Religion, disrespect of parental advice. If we have to spend so much time checking the schools, it takes away most of our home life with our children.

16 MAR 24 1961

Pray tell me! 1. Is the John Birch Society bad for our country during this peril. 2. What can we do - with our laws gone on such. - to curb communist subversion in our schools.

P.S. I have read your Masters of Deceit plus numerous State Senate Committee Books on Un-American Activities.

[redacted] Calif.

b6
b7C

EX 101

REC- 62 62-104401-842

March 22, 1961

Mr. [redacted]

[redacted]

Alhambra, California

b6
b7C

Dear Mr. [redacted]

3/30/86 SP7 marmke

Your letter of March 13, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 9
MAR 29 1961
COMM-FBI

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

Enclosures (5)
What You Can Do To Fight Communism
How To Beat Communism
Director's Speech of 10-18-60
Series from "Christianity Today"
One Nation's Response to Communism

see NOTE next page

51 MAR 29 1961

MAIL ROOM ☑ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

DCL:lcl* (3)

Letter to Mr. [redacted]

b6
b7C

NOTE: Bufiles contain no record identifiable with correspondent. Robert Welch, founder of the John Birch Society, an allegedly anticommunist organization, has criticized the Eisenhower Administration bitterly in the past. He once stated he felt a group having the appearance of a communist front would be effective in attracting true subversives.

TRUE COPY

[redacted]

b6
b7C

Alhambra, Calif.
March 13, 1961

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir,

The Organization generally designated as the "John Birch Society" has been reviewed by, and editorially denounced by, a large Los Angeles Newspaper.

I,personally, feel the time to be ripe for some show of urgency by "The People" - A "Standing up to be Counted" - and would like to be apprised of the view the F.B.I. takes in regard to this organization. I am strictly anti-communist and opposed to violence, but would sincerely like to be active in a reasonable and orderly activity dedicated to defeating the ends of communism in our country.

My thanks in advance for your opinions.

/s/ [redacted]

b6
b7C

EX 107

REC- 62 62-104401-842

5 MAR 24 1961

b6
b7C

[redacted]

3 ALHAMBRA, CALIF.
MARCH 13, 1961

MR. J. EDGAR HOOVER
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D.C.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
3/31/86 SPmaehke

DEAR SIR,

THE ORGANIZATION GENERALLY DESIGNATED AS THE "JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY" HAS BEEN REVIEWED BY, AND EDITORIALLY DENOUNCED BY, A LARGE LOS ANGELES NEWSPAPER.

I, PERSONALLY, FEEL THE TIME TO BE RIPE FOR SOME SHOW OF URGENCY BY "THE PEOPLE" - A "STANDING UP TO BE COUNTED" - AND WOULD LIKE TO BE APPRISED OF THE VIEW THE F.B.I. TAKES IN REGARD TO THIS ORGANIZATION.

I AM STRICTLY ANTI-COMMUNIST AND OPPOSED TO VIOLENCE, BUT WOULD SINCERELY LIKE TO BE ACTIVE IN A REASONABLE AND ORDERLY ACTIVITY DEDICATED TO DEFEATING THE ENDS OF COMMUNISM IN OUR COUNTRY.

MY THANKS IN ADVANCE FOR YOUR OPINIONS.

[redacted]

b6
b7C

ack 3-22-61
DCC

CORRESPONDENCE

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
5010-104

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: 3/21/61

FROM : SAC, SEATTLE (80-1262)

SUBJECT: [redacted]
Bremerton, Washington
RESEARCH (CORRESPONDENCE
AND TOURS)

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER

Reference Seattle letter 1/20/61 and the Director's letter to Mr. [redacted] dated 1/25/61.

b6
b7C

For the Bureau's information there is attached a clipping from the March 13, 1961 issue of the "Bremerton Sun." I thought the Bureau might be interested in this clipping in view of the prior correspondence between the Director and Mr. [redacted]

2 - Bureau (Enc. 1)
1 - Seattle

CHD/jpv
(3)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/31/06 BY SP2 macmc

REC-7

62-104401-843

ENCLOSURE

-112

10 MAR 22 1961

No acks necessary

CORRESPONDENCE

62 MAR 31 1961

Stool Pigeons

Editor, The Sun:

I read a letter in The Sun on Februray 25th entitled "Red Promotion," and from what I read that is just what it was.

The individual who wrote it also had a letter on February 2nd encouraging people to join the American Civil Liberties Union. I have my opinion concerning this fine upstanding organization but the following citation by the Congressional Committee to Investigate Communism (Fish Committee) says it much better: "The A.C.L.U. is closely affiliated with the communist movement in the United States, and fully 90% of its efforts are on behalf of Communists who have come into conflict with the law. It claims to stand for free speech, free press, and free assembly, but it is quite apparent that the main function of the A.C.L.U. is to attempt to protect the communists in their advocacy of force and violence to overthrow the government." There are many other such citations. I do not make the slightest insinuation that the writer of the letter is a communist or a sympathizer. I only bring this up because I feel that the people have a right to know what they are being encouraged to join.

The individual who wrote those two letters is obviously misinformed and not aware of the extent that our country today is threatened by this godless menace. This was demonstrated by his statement in "Red Promotion": "We have upgraded the imaginary power of Communism. . ." Anyone who has taken the time to read "Masters of Deceit" by J. Edgar Hoover quickly recognizes that this cancer in our society is far from being imaginary.

The writer further said that if he were Mr. Khrushchev he would put the riggers and pushers of "Operation Abolition" on the payroll. If the writer makes reference to the Communist Party program to render useless our internal security laws, he then is misinformed because the riggers of the program, "Operation Abolition," are the Communists themselves. They originated it in September, 1957. What that such a program does exist and show in one instance how it operated. I grant you, it may be a little tough to take, knowing it happened in the United States of America. But really, I've never heard of any group of outlaws putting a stool pigeon on the payroll before, have you, sir?

D. A. PAPINEAU,
1701 Bloomington,
Bremerton, WASH.

RE: [redacted]

b6
b7C

Bremerton, Washington
RESEARCH (CORRESPONDENCE AND TOURS)

BREMERTON SUN
3/13/61
Bremerton, Wash.
JACK McHENRY, Editor
Single Edition

3-31-86 SPMacMike

SEARCHED.....INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....FILED.....
MAR 21 1961
FBI - SEATTLE
BUREAU

62-104811-843
ENCLOSURE

EX-114

REC-7

62-[illegible] - 844

March 24, 1961

Mrs. [redacted]
[redacted]
Los Angeles 24, California

b6
b7C

Dear Mrs. [redacted]

Your letter of March 15, 1961, has been received, and I am pleased to know that you have read my book, "Masters of Deceit."

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

Enclosures (5)
17th National Convention, CPUSA & 3-60 LEB Introduction
Where Do We Stand Today
What You Can Do To Fight Communism
Communist Party, USA
How To Fight Communism

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐
see NOTE next page

56 APR 3 1961

SA W.Ici* (3)

Letter to Mrs. [redacted] b6 b7C

NOTE: Bufiles contain no record of correspondent.
The John Birch Society was founded in 12/58 in Indianapolis, Indiana, by Robert H. Welch, Jr., of Belmont, Massachusetts. It is incorporated under laws of State of Massachusetts; is allegedly anticommunist; has chapters throughout the country; and has not been investigated by the Bureau. Welch and the Society in the past have been extremely critical of former President Eisenhower. (62-104401)

MRS. [redacted]
[redacted]
LOS ANGELES 24, CALIFORNIA

b6
b7C

March 15, 1961

J. Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover;

Recently there has been a great deal of publicity in the Los Angeles area in regard to a John Birch Society, led by one Robert Welch. They purport to be anti-communistic.

Is this an organization worthy of support? Can you tell me if this Robert Welch is a bona-fide anti-communist?

Having read your book Masters of Deceit with detailed descriptions of communist tactics, I am skeptical of this organization's structure.

Any information you can ~~give me will~~ be most appreciated. I am anxious to combat the encroachment of communism ~~in our~~ country.

Thank you.

EX-114 REC-7 62-104401-84-4
MAR 27 1961

CORRESPONDENCE

[redacted]

b6
b7C

Ack: 3/24/61
SAW: lcl

3/31/86

EX-114 REC-7

62-111111-1 845

March 24, 1961

Mrs. [redacted]

Wichita 8, Kansas

b6
b7C

Dear Mrs. [redacted]

Your letter of March 16, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (3)
(listed next page)

RWE:efr*
(3)

see NOTE next page

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

57 APR 3 1961

Enclosures
What You Can Do To Fight Communism
Communist Party, USA
Expose of Soviet Espionage

NOTE: Bufiles contain no record identifiable with correspondent. The John Birch Society was founded in 12/58 in Indianapolis, Indiana, by Robert H. Welch, Jr., of Belmont, Massachusetts. It is incorporated under laws of State of Massachusetts; is allegedly anticommunist; has chapters throughout the country; and has not been investigated by the Bureau. Welch and the Society in the past have been extremely critical of former President Eisenhower. (62-104401)

b6
b7C

2. [redacted]
3. Wichita 8, Kansas
March 16, 1961

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Head of the F. B. I.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

We are hearing so much in our city and by reading the press, various magazines, and from our leading ministers, about the John Birch Societ that I am somewhat confused. Consequently, I wish to know the facts on this organization from your department.

We have seen this film, Operation Abolition, many, many times on the local TV, at clubs, etc. I have read the stand taken by my own church, The Methodist Church, and you will find this well defined, in CONCERN, Jan. 15, 1961; likewise the same in The Christian Century, and many other leading church peroidicals. Then I have read the one in The Reporter, of Nov. 24, 1960, and I sent for the publications put out by The Bay Area Student Committee, Berkeley, California. And from all these and from having seen the film many times, it seems to me that our HUAC has certainly made a very grave error in allowing this "untrue" film being shown and from sponsoring it.

We now have here in Wichita a very strong organization of what is called, The John Birch Society, so I have been told. I have not attended any of the meetings nor have I seen their film, COMMUNISM ON THE MAP. This organization even entered into our recent city and school board election, so it appears from what I have read in our only newspaper, The Wichita Eagle. I understand that our local library has their Blue Book and one may read it in the Reference Room; this I have not done yet, but have read what has been in Time, etc.

So, I shall appreciate your opinion on this organization. I am not a crusader, but am an interested housewife, and I think that one needs to know the background of such groups. We are all vitally interested in preserving our type of American government, but often such groups have done more harm in dividing our citizens on this alert toward Communism than to make all of us work together in harmony.

b6
b7C

Most sincerely,

[redacted]

(Mrs. [redacted]

REC. 7 62-101191-845

EX-114

MAR 27 1961

ack 3-24-61
RWE:gf

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/31/86 SPMcAmis

CORRESPONDENCE

REC-7 62-104401-846
~~64-10441-846~~

March 24, 1961

AIRMAIL

Mrs. [redacted]
[redacted]
South Laguna, California

b6
b7C

Dear Mrs. [redacted]

3/31/84 [illegible]

Your letter of March 17, 1961, with enclosure, has been received, and your interest in writing is appreciated.

While I would like to be of assistance, the FBI, as strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government, does not furnish evaluations or comments relative to the character or integrity of any individual, organization or publication. I hope you will not infer in this connection either that our files do or do not contain data regarding the group you mentioned.

In view of your concern, I am enclosing some material which you may wish to read, together with the stamped, self-addressed envelope you forwarded.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (5)
Correspondent's envelope
Communist Party, USA
Expose of Soviet Espionage
Communist Target--Youth
17th National Convention & Intro. 3-60 LEB

(SEE NOTE NEXT PAGE)
SAW:jka (3)

Tolson
Parsons
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Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
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Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

APR 4 1961

MAR 28 3 55 PM '61

Mrs. [redacted] b6 b7C 3-24-61

NOTE: The John Birch Society was founded in 12/58 in Indianapolis, Indiana, by Robert H. Welch, Jr., of Belmont, Massachusetts. It is incorporated under laws of State of Massachusetts; is allegedly anticommunist; has chapters throughout the country; and has not been investigated by the Bureau. Welch and the Society in the past have been extremely critical of former President Eisenhower. (62-104401)

Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles. Airmail postage being utilized since envelope forwarded by correspondent contained airmail stamp. "Three Arch Bay" per enclosed envelope.

b6
b7C

[redacted] California,
March 17th, 1961

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover: John Birch Society

With all your manifold duties and responsibilities, I do hope you can find time to read and reply to this short inquiry.

Since attending the Christian Anti-Communism School held at the Hotel Disneyland in Anaheim, California, several of us are now awakened to our situation and want to get into the fight to stamp out Communism in our Country.

A John Birch chapter is being formed here in South Laguna. Please tell us, do you approve of the John Birch method of combatting this terrible menance, or is there some other more effective method to pursue; --- I mean in addition to prayer.

A stamped, self-addressed envelope is enclosed for your reply and I do hope this will not be too great an imposition for we do rely on your judgment and trust you implicitly.

Very Sincerely,

REC- [redacted]

b6
b7C

[redacted] (Mrs.) [redacted]
South Laguna, Calif.

62-109401-846

3 MAR 27 1961

CORRESPONDENCE

3/31/86 Spmaepre

REC-7

GM 62-[illegible] - 847

March 23, 1961

Mr. [redacted]
S. A. Felton and Son Company
325 Bankers Trust Building
Indianapolis 4, Indiana

b6
b7C

Dear Mr. [redacted]

Your communication postmarked March 15, 1961, with enclosures, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Tolson
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Malone
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Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

Enclosures (3)
(listed next page)

RWE:efr*
(3)

see NOTE next page

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

63 APR 4 1961

Enclosures
What You Can Do To Fight Communism
Director's Speech 10-18-60
The Communists Are After Our Minds

NOTE: Enclosures were a newspaper clipping regarding the John Birch Society from an unidentified newspaper clipping and a business card. Bufiles contain no record identifiable with correspondent. Robert Welch, founder of the John Birch Society, an allegedly anticommunist organization, has criticized the Eisenhower Administration bitterly in the past. He once stated he felt a group having the appearance of a communist front would be effective in attracting true subversives.

TRUE COPY

[redacted]

Indpls. 20. Ind.

663

1-1

Mrs. [redacted]

b6
b7C

March . 5 - 61

Paid Fee

Dear Mr. Hoover: Mrs. [redacted] & I joined -- we want to help fight Communism -- Note clipping -- I am quite "concerned" -- are we fighting them or did we join them. Is the Birch Society thoroly loyal??

/s/ [redacted] John Birch Society

An

1 Inc. ct/
3-22-61
ofc

CC 100

REC-7

62-104401-847

MAR 27 1961

Pub.

Ack
3-22-61
Pl. ofc

INCLOSURE

3/31/86

THE JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY
INCORPORATED

Belmont 78, Massachusetts

Founder
ROBERT WELCH

The Council
N. E. ADAMSON, JR.
THOMAS J. ANDERSON
T. COLEMAN ANDREWS
SPRUILLE BRADEN
LAURENCE E. BUNKER
F. GANO CHANCE
STILLWELL J. CONNER
RALPH E. DAVIS
S. M. DRASKOVICH
REV. RICHARD GINDER
WM. J. GREDE*
E. P. HAMILTON
A. G. HEINSOHN, JR.*
GRANVILLE F. KNIGHT
FRED C. KOCH*
ALFRED KOHLBERG†
CLARENCE MANION*
FRANK E. MASLAND, JR.
N. FLOYD MCGOWIN
W. B. MCMILLAN
REVILO P. OLIVER
COLA G. PARKER
M. T. PHELPS
LOUIS RUTHENBURG
J. NELSON SHEPHERD
JAMES SIMPSON, JR.†
ROBERT W. STODDARD*
CHARLES B. STONE, III
PAUL H. TALBERT

*Executive Committee
†Deceased

b6
b7C

Dear New Member: [redacted]

Indpls. 20. Ind.

This will acknowledge and thank you for your membership application and dues.

Your card is enclosed for membership in Chapter No. 163 of which Mrs. [redacted] is Chapter Leader.

March 5 61
Paid Fee

Dues payments are necessary, and we want you to know that we are grateful for them. We also want you to know, however, that the contribution of your time and efforts to The John Birch Society -- in its fight for causes and purposes in which you and I believe -- will be even more important, and even more appreciated. We welcome you to a body of men and women dedicated to doing all they can, together and as individuals, to bring about less government, more responsibility, and a better world.

Sincerely,

Robert Welch

Dear MR. HOOVER: MRS. [redacted] & I joined - WE WANT to help fight COMMUNISM - NOTE clipping - I AM QUITE "CONCERNED" - ARE WE fighting them OR did WE join them. Is the BIRCH SOCIETY thoroughly LOYAL ??

b6
b7C

[redacted]

Signature
Stella

March-9-61

THE COURIER-JOURNAL, LOUISVILLE, KY.,

Birch Society Is Denounced In Senate

Reportedly Called Ike A Communist

By The Associated Press

Washington, March 8—Senator Milton R. Young (R., N.D.) said in the Senate today that leaders of an ultra-conservative and semi-secret group operating in many states have falsely accused former President Eisenhower of being a Communist.

Young said the organization, known as the John Birch Society, claims to be fighting Communism and has accused Young himself of "being about every kind of a scoundrel, including a Communist or pro-Communist."

He said the leader of the society is Robert Welch, a retired business executive of Belmont, Mass.

Formed In Cells

Senate Democratic leader Mike Mansfield of Montana lauded Young for his denunciation of the society. He said he has heard of the group in his own state and "something is wrong somewhere."

Young said the society has organized cells in North Dakota among "some of the most able and influential people in each community."

He said Welch has "made accusations against the President of the United States and other top officers far beyond anything the late Senator Joe McCarthy (R., Wis.) ever thought of."

"To label some of our most loyal and dedicated people as Communists plays right into the hands of the Communists," he added.

Articles Go On Record

Young placed in The Congressional Record articles from The Chicago Daily News of last July 26 and the current edition of Time magazine dealing with the Birch society and Welch.

(The existence of two John Birch Society chapters in Louisville was disclosed in an article by Robert Hermann in The Courier-Journal on February 19. Chapter leaders here are W. Earle Otis, an architect, and Shirley Palmer Ball, a businessman. Other members include S. Bayburn Watkins, executive vice-president of Associated Industries of Kentucky, and Dr. N. Burnett Magruder, executive director of the Louisville Council of Churches.)

The Chicago News story said Welch is author of a book, "The Politician," which tries to prove that former President Eisenhower was a dedicated Communist and his brother, Milton R. Eisenhower, was "Ike's superior in the Communist Party."

Income Tax Held Red

The Time article told of society activities in several states and said Welch is a former prominent Boston businessman who regards the income tax and Social Security as moves towards Communism.

It said John Birch was a U. S. Navy captain who was killed by Chinese Communist guerrillas after V-J Day in 1945.

62-104401-847

ENCLOSURE

3/31/86

HAND AND MACHINE BRUSHES FOR EVERY INDUSTRY

Felton

2, S. A. FELTON & SON COMPANY
MANCHESTER, N. H.

b6
b7C

[redacted]

3, 325 BANKERS TRUST BLDG.
4. INDIANAPOLIS 4, INDIANA

ALL [illegible]
[illegible] 3/31/86 [illegible]

62-104401-847

ENCLOSURE

March 23, 1961

62-104401-848

REC-4

Mr. [redacted]

[redacted]

Los Angeles 7, California

b6
b7C

Dear Mr. [redacted]

Your letter postmarked March 15, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

Enclosures (3)
(listed next page)

RWE:efr (3)

see NOTE next page

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

Enclosures
Director's Speech 10-18-61
The Communists Are After Our Minds
Communist Party, USA

NOTE: Bufiles contain no record identifiable with correspondent. Robert Welch, founder of the John Birch Society, an allegedly anticommunist organization, has criticized the Eisenhower Administration bitterly in the past. He once stated he felt a group having the appearance of a communist front would be effective in attracting true subversives.

TRUE COPY

Dear Sir:

Please advise as to the status of the John Birch Society.

Sincerly

[redacted]

Los Angeles 7, Calif.

b6
b7C

62-104401-848

REC-4

EX-108

Dear Sir:

Please advise as to the status of the John Birch Society.

Sincerely

[redacted]

[redacted]

Los Angeles 7, Calif.

b6
b7C

3/31/66

b6
b7C

CA[redacted]UCTS
[redacted] STREET
[redacted]RNIA

M. & M. [redacted]
[redacted] CALIFORNIA
[redacted]
T. A. 7, Calif.

LOS ANGELES 38 CALIF. MAR 15 8 30PM 1961

BUILD YOUR [redacted]
[redacted]ELY
U.S. SAVINGS BONDS

U.S. 7 AIR MAIL

Mail

J. Edgar Hoover
% F.B.I.
Washington, D.C.

EX-114
REC-33

849

Mrs. [redacted]

West Palm Beach, Florida

March 23, 1961

b6
b7C

Dear Mrs. [redacted]

Your letter of March 15, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated. I want to thank you for your kind remarks.

I regret to advise that our supply of the reprint that you requested in your communication has been depleted. I am sorry that we are unable to be of service to you.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

NOTE: No record could be located in Bufiles identifiable with correspondent. Her question as to whether the John Birch Society has a comeback with regard to the "Time" magazine article is being ignored. Robert Welch, founder of the John Birch Society, an allegedly anticommunist organization, has criticized the Eisenhower administration bitterly in the past. He once stated he felt a group having the appearance of a communist front would be effective in attracting true subversives. No literature is being forwarded in view of correspondent's affiliation with John Birch Society.

Tolson
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Conrad
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Malone
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Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

RWE:mb
(3)

51 MAR 31 1961

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

FBI
REC'D WASH. FIELD OFF.

March 15, 1961.

Mr. J.Edgar Hoover
United Statss Department of Justice
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington 25, D.C.

My dear Mr. Hoover:

Ack

I have been an admirer of yours for many years, but since my entrance into the study of UNESCO, Communism in my church, etc. you and your many wonderful statements have been constantly in mind --and I have quoted you many times. I recently made a stencil of your quote "Anyone who opposed the American Communist....." How the lefties have been working on a small group of us here in Florida.

EX-114 REC-33 62-104451-849

Recently received one of the finest things I have ever read on the Christian's problems with the Communist ideology. It is your work done in three series for Christianity Today THE COMMUNIST MENACE: RED GOALS AND CHRISTIAN IDEALS, ETC. ABSOLUTELY THE BEST. MAY I CONGRATULATE YOU IN MAKING THE PROBLEM SO VERY CLEAR.

MAR 27 1961

I WOULD LIKE TO SEND THIS TO EVERY MINISTER I KNOW --- AND MANY OTHER GOOD PEOPLE WHO DO NOT UNDERSTAND. Please tell me where I can order them and the price.

mmd
ack 3/29/61
RWE

Believe me I know no one could have written as you did and not be one of God's special

Mrs. [redacted]

[redacted]

West Palm Beach, Florida

b6
b7C

3/16

REC'D CURR. & TOURS
FBI
MAR 16 11 23 AM '61

REC'D CURR. & TOURS
FBI
MAR 22 - 46 PM '61

people so I know that you are under his constant watch.

My very best to you .

b6
b7C

Sincerely,

Mrs [redacted]

Mrs. [redacted]

P.S. This morning I am doing volunteer work in the John Birch reading room --we lend books and allow people to read your publications, Dan Smoot, etc. Our society has been under constant attack from the Miami Herald Newspaper and now Time magazine. Don't we have any come-back? [redacted]

March 24, 1961

REC-7

62-104401-850

EX-101

Mr. [redacted]

[redacted]

Rochester 22, New York

b6
b7C

3/31/61 SPMacomke

Dear Mr. [redacted]

Your letter of March 16, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

MAR 20 1 17 PM '61
FBI

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest. I am returning the money which you forwarded with your letter as there is no charge for material this Bureau is privileged to distribute to the public.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

Enclosures (5)
(listed next page)

see NOTE next page

RWE:efr* (3)

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

66 APR 3 1961

Enclosures
Communist Target--Youth
Correspondent's enclosures
Director's Speech 10-18-60
The Communists Are After Our Minds
Communist Party, USA

NOTE: Bufiles contain no record identifiable with correspondent. Robert Welch, founder of the John Birch Society, an allegedly anticommunist organization, has criticized the Eisenhower Administration bitterly in the past. He once stated he felt a group having the appearance of a communist front would be effective in attracting true subversives.

TRUE COPY

[redacted]
Rochester 22, New York
March 16, 1961

b6
b7C

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Recently there has been a lot of articles about an anti Communist group know as the John Birch Society Inc. headed by Robert Welch of Bellmont Massachusetts.

I would like to know if this group is working for the betterment of our country or is it working against it?

Please send me a copy of the booklet Communism the Target of Youth. For which I have enclosed twenty cents.

Yours truly,

/s/ [redacted]

b6
b7C

REC'D

62-104401-850

MAR 27 1961

TOLSON

CONFIDENCE

3/31/86 Spinnaccione

b6
b7C

Rochester 22, New York
March 16, 1961

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington D. C.
Dear Mr. Hoover,

Recently there has been a lot of articles about an anti Communist group known as the John Birch Society Inc. headed by Robert Welch of Belmont Massachusetts.

I would like to know if this group is working for the betterment of our country or is it working against it?

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Yours truly,

CORRESPONDENCE

20¢ (2-58 1-10-8)

~~ENCLOSURE~~

b6
b7C

b6
b7C

[redacted]

Rochester 27, N.Y.

ROCHESTER, N.Y.
8 PM
MR 1
1961

Mr Edgar J. Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C.

CORRESPONDENCE

3/31/86 JPMacemore

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

TO : Mr. Mohr

DATE: March 14, 1961

FROM : C. D. DeLoach

SUBJECT: JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY
ATTEMPT TO DISTRIBUTE BUREAU LITERATURE
WITHOUT APPROVAL

#290,504

ASAC William Alexander of Los Angeles called shortly after 2 p.m. today and advised that a printer in Santa Barbara, California, had just been in touch with our Resident Agent in that city. The printer stated that he had received an order from the John Birch Society to print up 10,000 copies of our poster, "What You Can Do to Fight Communism." The Society representative had then requested the printer to print an addition on the statement to the effect that this statement was being distributed under the auspices of the John Birch group. ASAC Alexander advised that the group had not to their knowledge requested Bureau approval to reproduce the Director's statement.

Alexander was advised that in view of the extremist position taken by this group that we should not, of course, have anything to do with them and that obviously they were attempting to capitalize on the Director's prestige. He was told that the printer should be informed that the FBI had not given approval for this group to reproduce our poster nor could we approve of the addition to this poster reflecting it's distribution by the John Birch Society. Alexander advised this matter would be handled promptly and a follow-up airtel would be submitted on the results.

REC-98 62-104401-851

This is the group whose magazine carried the article that up to 80% of the top officials of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare are communists or under communist influence. They have accused former President Eisenhower of being a communist dupe and have called for the impeachment of the Supreme Court and have made similar ridiculous allegations.

RECOMMENDATION:

In view of this irresponsible organization's attempt to capitalize on the Bureau's prestige, it is recommended that an SAC Letter be prepared instructing the field that no Bureau publications of any kind are to be made available to this group or to any of its representatives. It is further recommended that the Special Agents in Charge be alerted to the possibility that this group may attempt to reproduce Bureau publications and distribute them giving the impression that the FBI sanctions this organization. The field should be told that requests for any attempts to reproduce Bureau publications by the John Birch group should be turned down.

MAR 24 1961

51 MAR 29 1961

I Agree

1 - Mr. Parsons
1 - Mr. Belmont
1 - Mr. Jones
HPL:geg (5)